

Lawson under pressure as he admits growth 'too fast'

Chancellor puts on the brakes

● The latest balance of trade figures show Britain recorded a £2.15 billion deficit in July, compared with a Budget forecast of £4 million for 1988-89

● The City reacted with incredulity, with the FT-SE 100 index falling 50 points before steadying to close at 1,780.2. The pound also fell sharply before recovering

● Mortgage rates are set to rise by one point to 12.5 per cent and could rise to 13 per cent after a one point increase in base lending rates to 12 per cent

● Conservative backbenchers called for the introduction of tighter credit controls. Mr Neil Kinnock said the annual deficit could be more than £10 billion

By David Smith, Richard Ford and Nicholas Wood

Mr Nigel Lawson took emergency action yesterday to cool the economy by raising base rates after a record £2.15 billion current account deficit for last month showed that Britain's balance of payments problem is worsening.

The deficit, more than double the previous record, put Britain on course for an unprecedented £15 billion current account gap this year.

That figure is nearly four times the level the Chancellor of the Exchequer had predicted at the time of the Budget, and proportionately greater than the deficit in the US.

Mr Lawson, who broke his holiday in his constituency to return to the Treasury, ordered the Bank of England to signal a full one point rise in base rates from 11 to 12 per cent.

The Chancellor described the trade figures as "very unwelcome" while City analysts said they were "diabolical" and "unbelievably awful".

Mr Lawson confirmed that his action was taken to cool the economy and said that the

monetary squeeze would continue for some time ahead. "It is certainly true that the economy has been growing too fast and we have to slow it down, and that means higher interest rates," he said on BBC radio. "I have to say that I think it is likely they will have to stay at 12 per cent for some time."

This was the eighth increase in base rates since early June. Building society officials said that a rise in mortgage rates, probably to 12.5 or 13 per cent with effect from October 1, was inevitable.

Yesterday's move was also the first time in recent months that the Chancellor has abandoned his "softly softly" strategy of moving in half-point base rate steps and underlined the seriousness with which the figures were regarded.

The trade gap last month was £2.65 billion, as imports surged by more than £1 billion to £9.43 billion and exports held steady at £6.78 billion.

The current account deficit of £2.15 billion — after an invisible surplus estimated at £500 million — put the cumulative deficit for the first seven months of the year at £8 billion, double the Budget forecast for the full year and consistent with a final figure for the year of £14 billion to £15 billion.

When the figures first flashed up on dealers' screens in the City at 11.30am yesterday, they were received with incredulity. The July deficit was so large that many thought a mistake must have been made.

But soon share prices were falling sharply. The FT-SE 100

index fell by 50 points in the two and a half hours after the figures were released, before steadying to close 39 points lower at 1,780.2.

The figures produced a wave of criticism of the Government's economic policies and in particular of the Budget tax cuts, from both Westminster — including Tory backbenchers — and the City.

Backbenchers who only a month ago hailed him as "unsackable" began to get cold feet about his management of an economy seemingly careering out of control.

Acknowledging the depth of City and political concern about the latest figures, the Chancellor returned to the Treasury to announce the rise in bank base rates.

Some of his customary ebullience was lacking when, in the lunchtime interview, Mr Lawson conceded that the economy was overheating.

It was also disclosed yesterday that at his own request Mr Lawson met the Prime Minister at Downing Street on Monday night to discuss the overall shape of the economy and the trade deficit.

Inevitably, after their much publicized recent differences over exchange rate management, the encounter raised the prospect of a renewed rift between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Lawson, but government

sources responded by emphasizing her continuing confidence in his stewardship.

Mr Timothy Janman, Conservative MP for Thurrock, spoke for many Tory MPs when he said: "The Chancellor should go back to economic basics and take more advice from Sir Alan Walters."

"Until now the Chancellor has been supported by a majority of Conservative MPs but the balance could be changing."

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Birmingham Selly Oak, called for the introduction of credit controls and said that the Chancellor was caught in a "nutcracker of his own making". Raising interest rates would kill the boom in manufacturing industry.

Much the same point was made by leaders of the Opposition parties, with Labour leading an onslaught on the Government's handling of the economy.

It demanded the reversal of the top rate tax cuts announced in Mr Lawson's Budget and the introduction of credit controls to deal with the consumer spending spree.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, said the trade figures measured the "failure of the Government's entire economic strategy — they show a deficit made in Downing Street."

He said Mr Lawson's policies had trapped Britain into a vicious circle of balance of payments deficits, rising interest rates and an overpriced pound.

Mr Kinnock said that the deficit for the first seven months of this year was already twice Mr Lawson's Budget forecast of £4 billion for the whole of 1988/89.

"Our country is now on course for a balance of payments deficit of well over £10 billion this year."

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, said the country was facing the familiar problem of a balance of payments crisis. The position was not yet catastrophic but action was needed immediately to reduce demand by £1 billion



Mr Nigel Lawson yesterday: Acknowledging depth of concern. (Photograph: Tim Bishop)

Mortgage rates certain to increase to 12.5%

By Maria Scott

Mortgage rates will rise to at least 12.5 per cent and even 13 per cent after the base rate increase to 12 per cent.

The likely date for rises is October 1 although some lenders could act earlier.

A rise to 12.5 per cent, from the current standard rate of 11.5 per cent, will increase the cost of a £50,000 repayment mortgage by £30.62. That comes on top of an increase of more than 1.5 per cent at the start of this month.

The £50,000 borrower will pay at least £80 a month more in October than at the end of July. Those with endowment mortgages will be paying about £95 a month extra.

The increases will be a severe blow to the first-time buyers who stretched themselves to their financial limits

MONTHLY PAYMENTS (OVER 25 YEARS)	9.8% 11.5% 12.5% 13%			
	£			
20,000	147.56	164.55	174.86	180.09
30,000	221.33	246.82	262.29	270.14
40,000	290.75	322.41	341.03	348.19
50,000	354.74	393.94	416.21	423.83

Repayment up to £50,000 "net annual" used, over £50,000 "gross" profile.

to buy before a restriction on mortgage interest tax relief was introduced on August 1.

The two largest building societies, the Halifax and the Abbey National, both said yesterday that they would not make an immediate decision although both accepted that increases were inevitable.

The Halifax will make a decision over the next week. Mr Alan Dunstan, assistant general manager, marketing, at the Abbey National said a rise of 1.25 per cent was possible.

The National Westminster, Midland and Barclays banks all said that rates were being reviewed.

The building societies, cushioned by record levels of money from savers, can afford to be slightly restrained with their increases.

At their current standard rate of 11.5 per cent the societies have been operating at only 0.5 per cent above the base rate which preceded yesterday's rise. Normally the gap is at least 1.25 per cent.

Maze escaper switched to new prison

By Staff Reporters

The Irish authorities switched the Maze prison escaper Robert Russell, who is due to be extradited to Northern Ireland tomorrow, to a different jail yesterday after fears that the IRA were plotting to free him.

Prison officers unsuccessfully searched Portlaoise jail, where he had been held, for explosives they believe were smuggled into the prison.

Russell is wanted in the north on seven warrants from the police. He was serving a 20-year sentence at the Maze prison for attempted murder when he escaped in 1983.

Security officers believe that at least some of the present violence by the IRA is directed against the closer co-operation between Dublin and Belfast and against the extradition of "political" prisoners.

As concern grew over tomorrow's planned handover of Russell at the border, Irish

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Cabinet ministers in Dublin discussed the implications for the Republic of tough security measures put together in talks between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, on Wednesday.

Yesterday there was still no official announcement of the steps that are to be taken. But sources indicated that the impact of the measures would be almost solely in the intelligence area. It is believed that the success of the measures agreed at Number 10 will, to some extent, depend on co-operation in Dublin.

It is understood that details of the security package which were relevant to the Republic were passed on to the Dublin government by Mr King.

Yesterday, as the Royal Ulster Constabulary carried out a number of arrests, steps were being taken to ensure a safe handover of Russell.

A final attempt to stop the extradition is expected to be made by former MP Mrs Bernadette MacAliskey before a Dublin High Court judge today. Demonstrators protesting against the extradition gathered on the border near Newry yesterday in the belief that the 30-year-old IRA terrorist was about to be handed over to the RUC.

Russell, from Belfast, is due to finish a three-year sentence for attempted escape from Portlaoise Prison south of Dublin tomorrow.

In Ulster, the RUC arrested several men for questioning

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INSIDE

P&O

European Ferries

● Your last chance to take advantage of The Times/P&O special offer on Channel ferry return crossings to Calais, Boulogne, Zeebrugge, Ostend, Le Havre and Cherbourg for £5 a head. The booking form and final coupon appear today on page 8

TOMORROW

JUMBO

Crossword

● The Times Jumbo Crossword — a great way to start the Bank Holiday weekend

WIN £174,000

● With one winner of yesterday's £4,000 daily prize (see page 3), the Portfolio Accumulator stands at £174,000. Prices: page 23

Late defiance

A last wicket record partnership of 64 enabled Sri Lanka to total 194 against England at Lord's. Page 32

Degree results

Degrees awarded by the University of Suffolk are published today. Page 24

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Chess master in defection riddle

By a Staff Reporter

Romania's top chess Grand Master, Mr Mihai Suba, was last night at the centre of a defection mystery.

Mr Suba told organizers of a tournament being played in London that he had applied to the Home Office for political asylum, but official sources said no application had been received.

Mr Stewart Reuben, organizer of the Lloyds Bank Masters Tournament, said Mr Suba had told him on Tuesday night that he did not want to return to Romania because he was in conflict with the national chess federation.

"He told me they were trying to force him to play in an area he believed was contaminated with radioactive waste," Mr Reuben said.

"Of course he is concerned about repercussions, he has a wife and daughter still in Romania, but he does not want to go back."

"He was asking about tournaments in England and when I asked him why he said: 'I have decided to defect.'"

"He likes the life in England, he likes the people and he is convinced he can find work here. He is a professional mathematician and he works in the computing industry. He had considered the US but he finds the life too frenetic."

Mr Suba, who has his son, aged 14, with him in England, has a visitor's visa valid until the end of the year but he would not be able to take a job unless granted asylum.

Mr Reuben said the process could take up to a year but Mr Suba would be able to earn up to £300 a week playing in British chess tournaments.

He described Mr Suba as mild-mannered and calm. Until last night Mr Suba was equal first in the tournament, being played at a hotel in south-west London, with Mr Tony Kosten

Polish police storm mines Fleeing strikers hide in pit

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

Striking Polish coalminers who fled raids by riot police are in hiding in a remote Silesian pit seam, police authorities confirmed yesterday.

The Solidarity spokesman in Gdansk claimed that police with truncheons had used force to break up strikes in three Silesian mines late on Wednesday night.

In one of the mines, 40 striking miners escaped the police and had literally "gone underground" and were hiding in the remote seam.

The police raided the three mines in and around the town of Jastrzebie, near the southern border with Czechoslovakia. Dozens of Zomo riot force cars and vans surrounded the collieries while a helicopter circled overhead shining a spotlight into shafts.

"We knelt and prayed," said Mr Franciszek Cichon, a welder at the Morciniek mine, where police beat miners with

truncheons before storming the nearby Moszczenica colliery.

Police sealed off the campus of Warsaw University and rounded up student opposition leaders here to prevent a rally in support of the strikers.

A Solidarity source said a group of 500 workers who

Warsaw (Reuters) — Two men pleaded guilty yesterday to murdering Mr Jan Strzelecki, a Polish intellectual who advised strikers during the 1980 unrest that led to the creation of Solidarity, in a robbery attempt in June.

rallied at Poland's largest petrochemical plant and oil refinery plant at Plock, 75 miles north-west of Warsaw, threatened to strike if police continued to use force.

As the authorities tightened the cordon around the Lenin shipyard here yesterday the port authorities called on the

striking shipyard workers to leave the complex immediately, or face dismissal and "other consequences".

With the Polish Government claiming that no fewer than six mines in Silesia had given up their strike action, it is clearer by the hour that the flagship and birthplace of the Solidarity movement, the Lenin shipyard, is becoming more isolated and is once again the focus of conflict.

More than 100 of the largest factories in Warsaw issued a statement through their official unions calling on the Government to improve the economic situation and recognize the strikers' grievances or face a general strike in the capital.

● BRUSSELS: The international office of Solidarity based here yesterday appealed for funds for "strikers, their families and victims of repression" in Poland.

International spy ring traded in Nato secrets

By John England in Bonn, Christopher Mosey in Stockholm and Michael Evans in London

A spy ring which has been selling top-secret Nato war contingency plans to Hungarian intelligence agents has been uncovered by West German and American counter-espionage agencies, it was disclosed yesterday.

The German-based spy ring, with the aid of couriers in Sweden, provided American, West German, and Nato secrets, apparently obtained from American soldiers, to the Hungarian intelligence agency, which would have been acting as surrogates for the Soviet KGB.

Yesterday West German government sources said that eight people had been arrested in Germany, Sweden and elsewhere in Europe. The most significant arrest involved a

retired US sergeant, named as Clyde Lee Conrad, aged 41, who had been in the US Army for 20 years.

For seven years he had worked at the Bad Kreuznach base, south of Bonn, where he was in charge of a confidential archive and had access to secret defence plans.

Two of those arrested were Hungarian-born brothers who confessed to Swedish security authorities that they had been working for the Hungarian secret service, called AH, for "a relatively long time".

The men, who had been under surveillance for more than a year, will be charged today with conducting illegal intelligence operations in Sweden. It is thought they were running

the Swedish section of what is believed to be one of the most successful East Bloc spy rings of modern times.

The two men operated from a detached house in a quiet suburb of the west coast port of Gothenburg, Sweden's second largest city, chosen as a base because of its regular ferry links to West Germany.

The men, both physicians who immigrated to Sweden in the 1960s, were detained on Tuesday with radios, cipher keys and coded messages.

Yesterday Mr Torsten Bjorkhede, a senior official of the Swedish security police, said: "We have worked in cooperation with German police because it was very important to

arrest these people at the same time so they could not warn each other."

In Bonn, security sources said that the former US sergeant had done serious damage to Nato. West German security sources described the exposure of the international spy ring as a "very grave" case.

An official statement said that after he retired Conrad had attempted to recruit other US soldiers as agents. He had been successful in one case, paying a soldier a five-figure sum

Conrad's last meeting with his Hungarian spy master took place in Vienna in July when he had handed over further secrets for money. The West German federal prosecutor

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Small enough to be a full stop

Big enough to kill 102,000 people every year

A tiny blood clot can cause enormous problems. The pain of angina. A stroke if it reaches the brain. And, if it blocks the arteries of the heart, it can kill. Research is trying to find out what causes blood clots. How they grow. And, more importantly, how to prevent them.

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NEWS ROUNDUP

400,000 in rush to buy F-reg cars

Almost 400,000 F-registration cars have been sold in the first 20 days of August, over 19 per cent more than in the same period last year. In the rush for the new registration, motorists have bought 63,000 more cars than in the first part of last August, the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders says.

Ford cars stay best-sellers, with the Escort remaining the most popular model. Traditionally, Austin Rover loses ground in August, and, in the first 20 days of the month, only the Metro was among the 10 best-selling models. The replacement of the old Cavalier with a new model was announced this week and this hit Vauxhall sales; its market share was a disappointing 12.5 per cent. Peugeot, Volkswagen and Citroën all sold well in August, as did the Japanese marques.

Poster withdrawn

Coca-Cola has agreed to withdraw a reproduction poster commemorating the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games after an MP complained that it was offensive. The poster depicted a tall blond-haired Aryan athlete imposed against a black, red and white background, the same colours as the Nazi flag. Pizzaland distributed the poster to customers in their fast food shops in a joint promotion with Coca-Cola. Mr Greville Janner, Labour MP for Leicester West, and secretary of the parliamentary war crimes group, has received assurances that the posters will be removed.

Opera finds harmony

A surprise donation of more than £14,000 towards a fund for musicians' instruments has ended a pay dispute between the management and orchestra of the Welsh National Opera, which threatened a production of Verdi's *Falstaff*. The 65 players were reinstated yesterday after Allied Steel and Wire, of Cardiff, stepped in with the money. The orchestra was dismissed for three days, after walking out over pay. The management had refused to move on claims for a £4-a-week instrument allowance and its offer to raise average pay by 6.9 per cent to £188.88 a week.

Measles safeguards

Measles vaccination will not become compulsory, in spite of an epidemic of the disease, but is "strenuously recommended", the Department of Health said yesterday. The department dismissed a suggestion by a drug company making measles vaccine that children should be barred from starting primary school unless they have been immunized. At least six children have died of the illness and 70,000 cases have been reported in England and Wales so far this year, against 29,000 in the same period last year.

Shipyard peace hope

An early end to the 12-week strike by 13,000 workers at the Vickers Shipbuilding and Engineering yard, in Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria, looked certain last night. More than 70 per cent of the members, from four of the 12 unions, voted to accept the company's proposals. They walked out over plans for compulsory summer holiday shutdowns.

NUJ man dismissed

The National Union of Journalists has dismissed Mr Niranjan Paik, its financial controller, for "gross industrial misconduct". He was told of his removal in a letter from Mr Harry Conroy, the union's general secretary. Mr Paik, who has been in dispute over his pension, would not comment last night and was understood to be consulting lawyers.

Teachers get reassurance over rights from Baker

By David Tytler, Education Editor

The first olive branches in the battle between Mr Kenneth Baker, the Secretary of State for Education and Science, and the National Union of Teachers, the largest teachers' union, were exchanged yesterday.

Mr Baker said that he would not use his new powers under the Education Reform Act to deprive teachers of their right to appeal against dismissal.

Union leaders had been concerned that teachers might lose rights under the Act which gave the power of hire and fire to school governors, while, under employment law, the local education authority remained the employer.

The Act gave the final decision to the Secretary of State, which would have meant that dismissed teachers could not appeal to an industrial tribunal.

Extracts from letters between the two men were published by the NUT with Mr Baker's agreement.

Miss Olive Forsythe, for the union, said the letters indicated a change in Mr Baker's attitude towards the teachers.

Mr Baker wrote: "Diminution of the employment rights of teachers forms no part of our intentions. Where the governing body takes a decision, they rather than the

local education authority must be answerable for it. Employees must be able to claim and enforce their rights against the governors."

Emphasizing the understanding between the Government and the union, Mr Baker wrote: "The correspondence between myself and the NUT has been conducted in the spirit of a constructive working relationship which I hope to see developed for the future."

Mr Doug McAvoy, the union's general secretary, was delighted that Mr Baker had agreed that the letters should be released through the union.

"I welcome Mr Baker's assurances and the undertakings", he said.

"The co-operation of teachers is essential if the Education Reform Act is to have any chance of working for the good of this country's children."

Mr Martin Rogers, chief master of King Edward's in Birmingham, a leading public school, said yesterday that the high standards set by his teachers could have resulted in some of his pupils getting lower GCSE grades than those awarded for schools with lower standards.

He criticized the way the moderators of the Midland Examining Group had graded his candidates.

Weekend hopes high

Holidaymakers spending the August Bank holiday in the sun are expected to have relatively trouble-free flights after Spanish air traffic controllers withdrew their strike threats.

More than 50,000 passengers will leave from Manchester airport for Spanish destinations this weekend.

An airport spokesman said: "Everything has been running smoothly from our end over the last couple of weeks. If there is a crisis, we have prepared by arranging enter-

FLIGHTCHECK

tainment and staff will work overtime."

Bristol: Paramount flight to Malta left 50 minutes late at 4.30pm.

Manchester: Orion departure for Faro left 2 hours 40 minutes late at 6pm. Orion arrival from Almeria 3 hours 45 minutes late. Britannia mid-afternoon arrival from Malaga delayed one hour.

IRA bus bomb soldier is buried



Soldiers fought back tears at the funeral of the first of the IRA bus bomb victims to be buried yesterday. Many had flown from Northern Ireland to pay their last respects to Private Jayson Burfitt. They heard a Roman Catholic priest condemn the "hearts of hate" that caused the tragedy as he conducted the funeral. Private Burfitt, aged 19, was one of the eight soldiers of the First Battalion, the Light Infantry, killed near Ballygawley, Co Tyrone, last weekend. About 350 mourners, including his mother, Mrs Gill

Burfitt, father David and sister Alison, packed St John's Catholic Church, Bath, Avon. Private Burfitt, christened at the 19th century church, attended Mass there with his father and sister just two weeks before he was blown up. The Bishop of Clifton, the Rt Rev Mervyn Alexander, conducted the service and expressed his deepest sympathy for the family. The parish priest, Monsignor William Mitchell, said: "One of the most grotesque tragedies is that there are people who would try, absurdly, to

combine some alleged vestige of allegiance to Christ with hearts of hate. Hatred cannot ultimately prevail. A young life given in trying to bring a society where human beings can be reunited and live side by side is not a life lost in vain."

Private Burfitt's coffin, draped in a Union flag with his belt and cap on top, was borne from the church by six comrades from the battalion (above) for burial at Haycombe cemetery near by.

Notting Hill Carnival

Armour squads fight crime

By Edward Gorman

The police have prepared special "snatch-squads" to combat gangs of "stealers" expected to rampage through crowds, at the Notting Hill carnival this weekend grabbing handbags, jewellery and wallets.

The squads will consist of shield-training instructors from the police riot-training centre at Hounslow in west London, who rarely work on the streets with regular officers.

"These are the top men — the elite. They only go in if the situation is considered to be really serious and they'll be at the carnival this year", a police source said last night. The decision to create the

squads comes after thefts and assaults at last year's carnival by groups of 20 or more youths running through densely packed streets snatching handbags.

Police statistics show that, among 1,190 serious crimes logged last year there were 427 thefts from the person, 182 violent robberies, 117 assaults on the public and six assaults on police officers.

The police have also introduced new protective clothing for some of the estimated 9,200 officers on duty over the two-day Bank holiday weekend. Many officers will wear Kevlar body armour under their riot overalls and cricket boxes to protect the groin area.

The body armour is made of a tough lightweight synthetic material strong enough to provide protection against a knife attack or flying bricks.

Last night a leading organization representing West Indians living in Great Britain appealed to the public for a trouble-free twenty-third carnival. Mr William Trant, director of the West Indian Standing Conference, said: "Safety at carnival is a public safety matter and as such, is as much your responsibility as it is the responsibility of the police, the organizers and the stewards."

"If you cannot contribute to the law, order, and safety of this event, then stay away."

TV-am union may appeal in jobs fight

The technicians' union in dispute with TV-am is considering appealing against an industrial tribunal's ruling in a test case that one of its 234 members at the company was not unfairly dismissed.

The tribunal ruled by two to one that the technicians who were dismissed by TV-am after the dispute over manning levels were engaged in industrial action. It ruled that it had no jurisdiction to hear claims of unfair dismissal.

A majority of the tribunal accepted that the company had made various proposals to the union to avoid the industrial action. It also noted that the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians had tried to prolong the action.

A.I.D.S.
A.I.D.S. and Drug Users
A.I.D.S. Fact, Fiction & News
A.I.D.S. and Young Heterosexuals

YOUR BABY

Baby's first year
Breast Feeding and Bottle Feeding
Fever
Nappy Rash
Teething
Thrush
Vomiting

Thrombosis
Thyroid Gland
HEALTHY EATING
Acne
Baldness
Diabetic Diet
Fibre
Healthcall Diet
Slimming

HEART AND HEART ATTACK

Angina
Heart Attacks in General
Heart Murmurs
Palpitations

Sexual Activity
Transvestism

SKIN PROBLEMS

Acne
Baldness
Infestations
Psoriasis
Stretch Marks
Varicose Veins

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Lung Cancer
Skin Cancer
Stomach Cancer
Uterus & Ovarian Cancer

CONTRACEPTION

Coming off the Pill
Male and female responsibility
Methods of Contraception
Morning after Pill
Vasectomy
Withdrawal and "safe-periods"

DRUGS AND DRUG ABUSE

Alcohol — detecting the early signs
Alcohol — helping an alcoholic
Marijuana
Tranquillizers

FAMILY PROBLEMS

Child Abuse
Problem Teenagers
Sexual Abuse

GENERAL MEDICAL PROBLEMS

Arthritis & Rheumatism
Backache
Blood pressure high/low
Constipation
Diarrhoea
Diverticular Disease
Gall Stones
Headache
Irritable Bowel Syndrome
Migraine
Piles (Haemorrhoids)
Poor Circulation
Sore Throat
Stomach Ulcers
Sugar Diabetes

MENTAL HEALTH AND STRESS

Agoraphobia
Anorexia Nervosa
Anxiety
Bulimia Nervosa
Depression
Loneliness
Manic Depression
Nervous breakdown
Schizophrenia
Stress
Tiredness

PERSONAL PROBLEMS

Bad Breath (Halitosis)
Bedwetting
Blushing
Dandruff
Nervous tics and nail biting

PREGNANCY

Having a baby
"I want to have a baby"
Miscarriage
Pregnancy
Pregnancy after 40
Sex during and after pregnancy
Stretch marks

SEX EDUCATION

First periods
Puberty — boys
Puberty — girls
"Where did I come from?"

SEXUAL MATTERS

Female Sexual Response
Homosexuality
Impotence
Improving Sex in Marriage — Men
Improving Sex in Marriage — Women
Infertility
Male Sexual response
Masturbation
Premature Ejaculation
Responsibility in Sexual relations
Sex Therapy

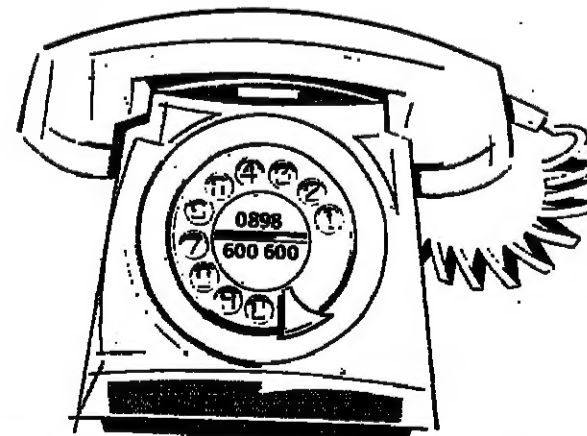
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES

Genital Herpes
Other sexually transmitted diseases
Syphilis and Gonorrhoea
WOMEN
Breast — self examination
Cystitis
Having a baby
Hormone Replacement Therapy
Hysterectomy
Menopause

Menstruation
Painful Periods
Pregnancy
Vaginal discharge
Vaginal Thrush

TEENAGERS

Acne
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مكالمات الأخصائي

Women 'feel guilty about spending husbands' cash'

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Housewives and working women in traditional female lower-paid jobs have difficulty in spending money on themselves because they feel they have not earned it, according to a new report on women's attitudes to money.

There is a greater emphasis on sharing money and pooling resources between husband and wife than in the past, but women without jobs find spending even small sums on themselves makes them feel guilty and uncomfortable.

Financial institutions reinforce these problems as non-working wives are frequently forced to persuade their husbands to sign credit agreements, according to the report, which was commissioned by the Bradford & Bingley building society.

"The thing I find worst when I'm not contributing my money is when it comes to Christmas because I really feel like I'm buying him a present with his own money", one

housewife said. Women who work, but do not earn as much as their husbands because they are in part-time or low-paid jobs such as nursing, keep a separate bank or building society account in their own name to give them a sense of financial privacy. These women are committed to sharing funds, but have a deep need for such a separate identity.

"Having a personal account meant they could buy certain things which their husbands might object to or which they wouldn't want to consult about. Their private purchases were not always luxuries or frivolous but they knew that their husbands might judge them unnecessary", the report says.

Many working women feel resentment that they work harder than their husbands because they are doing two jobs, the report says.

"I feel that a woman contributes more than enough

to the home and she shouldn't feel guilty about anything", one said.

Working women are also quick to take advantage of their ability to use financial services. Fifty-seven per cent of the Bradford & Bingley's customers with regular savings accounts are women, as are 13 per cent of their mortgagees. That figure is 2 per cent higher than for other lenders.

Working women also differ from housewives because of their access to credit. They regard interest-free credit as a responsible and convenient means of deferred payment.

"We just keep enough money ticking over in the bank account and put all our other money in the most interest our building society gives us", one said.

Professional women, in high earning jobs who formed the third group of interviewees, took for granted the notion of financial independence

because they had achieved parity with their husbands in earnings. Separate accounts were kept for convenience only, as they did not feel the need to remain in personal control of part of their earnings.

They were critical of banks, which they attacked for being patronizing and unfriendly. One woman had closed an account because the manager had insisted on speaking to her husband about their joint account. Those women who were doctors, dentists and architects from Hampstead, north-west London, experienced none of the conflicts between shared and personal money that housewives in Sheffield and Croydon exhibited. Even in the event of divorce or separation those women know they will be able to live in some style.

Money Talks: from Bradford & Bingley's marketing department, price £25.

Nurses leap into action



Among nurses in London joining strike action yesterday to protest about the Government's clinical grading review were (left) Miss Heidi Martin, a student nurse, and Miss Lizzy Payne, a staff nurse, who demonstrated outside the Middlesex Hospital (Jill Sherman writes).

Health service unions said the limited action by nurses at some London hospitals achieved maximum publicity for their case with the minimum disruption to patients.

Emergency cover was provided at all four London hospitals where staff walked out and managers said no operations had to be cancelled. The Royal College of Nursing dismissed the strike as pointless and said that most nurses in London were striking over pay rises of between 11 and 20 per cent.

Mr Hector MacKenzie, general secretary of the Confederation of Health Service Employ-

ees, said: "The action today allowed nurses to let off steam. They wanted to give some visible signs of their anger about the Government's handling of the clinical grading review without causing harm to patients."

The main action took place at the Middlesex, where about 55 nurses, mainly Cohse members, joined a 24-hour strike. The nurses, supported by some off-duty ancillary staff, stood on picket lines waving placards, trying to get the public to back their call for full funding of the award. They were later ordered by policemen to take down signs asking drivers to sound their horns in support.

Protests at the Charing Cross Hospital and Ealing General and Westminster Hospital were more limited, with a few dozen nurses emerging for two hours during shift changes.

(Photograph: Chris Harris)

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator A holiday windfall

The sole winner of the Portfolio prize of £4,000 is Mrs Ethel Underwood, a housewife, of Tiverton, Devon, who was on holiday with her husband in Scotland when she heard of her win. Mrs Underwood, aged 56, said: "I am with my husband, who is playing golf, and this has come as quite a shock to us, as I have been playing the competition since it started and I have not won anything so far."

She said her husband, who is a chief estimator for a building firm, and her two sons would probably share in her success, but she had not yet decided how to spend the windfall.

Struck off list 'for complaint about doctor'

By David Cross

A young mother who complained about her doctor's failure to visit her baby niece when she showed signs of suffering meningitis, has been struck off the doctor's list together with her son, aged seven months.

Miss Donna O'Neill, aged 17, last night said her GP, Dr John Bayly, had refused to visit her infant niece, Leigha Buckle, even though members of her family had previously encountered symptoms of meningitis.

Leigha's parents had to take her to the surgery themselves, from where she was immediately taken to hospital. She is suffering from the disease.

"But my little boy Ryan did not do anything and I cannot understand why they have taken him off the list too", Miss O'Neill said from her home in Stroud, Gloucestershire.

A spokesman for the health centre where Dr Bayly works said that the relationship of trust between the practice and the family had been damaged by "unfair" comments to the media.

New parking meter will accept cards

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

Electronic parking meters designed to accept credit cards and pre-paid phone-style cards went on trial in Westminster yesterday.

The city council is now asking the Government to change existing legislation which prohibits the use of credit cards in parking meters.

This red tape means motorists will only be able to use coins in the electronic meters during the trial.

Mr Robert Davis, chairman of the Westminster City Council's traffic and works committee, yesterday said he hoped that within six to nine months the Government would change the legislation, allowing motorists to feed meters with credit cards rather than coins.

"We want a flexible meter that can take any sort of money", Mr Davis said.

The council was disappointed that the Department of Transport would not allow the pilot scheme to

The Co-op "divi" is coming back on a large scale but electronically and in modern plastic-card form (Derek Harris writes). Co-operative Retail Services which, with £1.7 billion annual sales, is the biggest single retailer in the co-operative movement, plans to bring out a "shareholder" card, an expanded version of the Visa credit card, at the beginning of next year. The Co-operative Bank, which already issues Visa-based Co-op

accept cards. The Westminster trial Westminster is likely to be seen as a pilot scheme for the rest of the country.

Existing legislation covered the use of clockwork meters, the Department of Transport said yesterday. The idea of electronic meters had been accepted by Government but there had been delays in finding time in Parliament to make the changes legal. Officials want to wait for the

credit cards, is handling the scheme.

It says the card will be much cheaper for the consumer than many store cards but will also undercut the main issuers of Visa and Access credit cards.

The card is claimed to be the most multi-functional yet. It will be introduced from September at two Co-op department stores, in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, and Swansea, West Glamorgan.

meter to be approved by the British Standards Institute before trials are allowed, said Mr Davis. The electronic pay and display machine replaces 100 30-year-old parking meters near St James's Park.

Such meters have been used in council-run off-street car parks for some time but the Westminster experiment is the first where kerbside meters have been replaced. The first meter is of French design but a

British rival will also be tested. As the cost of parking, particularly in central London, has soared, it has become increasingly difficult for motorists to have the necessary coins for an hour or two-hour stay at a meter.

Payment by pre-paid card has been in use by coach drivers in Westminster for the past two years. Drivers purchase the cards from information kiosks or from the council and feed them into a meter at the special coach parking bays.

Westminster already has 40 electronic meters on trial in Victoria, although their electronic display is mounted within a grey case barely distinguishable from the existing mechanical meter. The electronic meter is said to be 30 per cent more reliable and considerably more flexible. Mr Davis said the new generation of meters would accept all coins and charge different rates at various times of the day.

Pioneer implant

Pacemaker reacts to pulse

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The world's first patient to receive an experimental new type of pacemaker which automatically speeds up or slows down the heart rate according to physical demands has had the operation in a London hospital.

The device interprets electrical signals from the heart when it is called on to work harder, such as when the individual is taking exercise, and adjusts the pulse rate.

The first patient to have the device implanted is Mr John MacPherson, aged 73, a retired catering officer of Chichester, West Sussex.

The operation took place under local anaesthetic earlier this week at St George's Hospital, Tooting, south London.

"The aim is to mimic as closely as possible the spontaneous activity of the heart", Dr David Ward, consultant

cardiologist at the hospital, said yesterday.

"There is no question that pacemakers increase longevity and improve quality of life. We hope the new model will enable our patients to be considerably more active."

Pacemakers help people who have abnormally slow heartbeats by delivering a regulated series of tiny electric shocks through a wire to stimulate the heart muscle.

The devices are powered by a battery in a metal box implanted in a cavity behind the wall of the chest or abdomen.

The batteries last at least five years, after which they or the whole device has to be replaced in a similar operation.

The new model, developed in the United States, is called "rate responsive" and can adjust the heart rate to any

point in a range of between 60 to 125 beats a minute, depending on the signals it receives alerting it to increased exercise.

Mr MacPherson was spending his first full day at home yesterday after the operation. He said: "For some time I have been feeling poorly and unable to do very much, but I hope this is going to let me get back to my gardening, walking and other things I enjoy".

His operation lasted about 20 minutes. The generator was implanted behind the wall of his chest near the shoulder, with a wire fed from it through a vein to the heart.

"I did not find it particularly uncomfortable", he said. St George's is the first hospital to implant the pacemakers and will carry out 10 implants. Hospitals in the US are awaiting federal authorization for such operations.

Village house blast

Police check planning files

By Robin Young

Police were yesterday no closer to discovering who blew the roof off the property market in Barling Magna, near Southend in Essex.

Officers spent the day sifting planning files for the identity of 25 objectors to a planning application in the hope that it might yield clues to the intruder who early on Sunday planted a bomb which demolished two thirds of a £289,000 five-bedroom house nearing completion at the edge of the village.

The blast could be heard

three miles away. It reduced what the developers, Savana Properties of Upminster, described as "a quality development of three country residences in a secluded setting" to two country residences and a tettering wreck.

Police inquiries have centred on local opposition to the planning application which permitted development on the site.

"One line that does seem to come out is the continuing local opposition to the development", Det Chief Inspec-

tor Ivan Dibley of Southend police said.

Mr Dibley said that several short lengths of four-inch diameter plastic tubing had been retrieved from the wreckage. He said these could have formed part of an explosive device using petrol, propane gas or acetylene as an accelerant.

"It is possible that whoever planted the device did not realize the consequences of what he was doing. It was lucky he was not standing in front of the end of the house which was blown out by the blast, or he would have gone with it", he said.

"We believe that this was part of a device that was detonated by remote control or the use of a fuse," he said. "Some sort of accelerant must also have been used, not TNT, gelignite or Semtex plastic explosives, but possibly petrol, propane or acetylene gas."

A forensic examination of the objects is still being carried out. "These items include five to six lengths of transparent plastic tubing six inches in length and 1/4 to 1/2 inch in diameter of the type used as fuel lines in petrol-driven lawnmowers."

The villagers of Barling Magna find plenty to complain about.

However, few people in the village are willing now to identify themselves as objectors to the three country residences. When the development was first mooted, nearly thirty letters were sent, making objections.

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Wreckage of the £289,000 village house after the bombing.

Criminal care orders may be abolished in reform of child law

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Government is proposing to abolish care orders in criminal proceedings, instead giving courts power to remove a child of 10 years or above from home for up to six months.

The reform, put forward in a consultation paper from the Department of Health, is being looked at together with proposed changes to care orders in civil proceedings, which are expected in the child care law Bill this autumn.

Under the proposals, courts would have a strengthened power to add a requirement to a supervision order that the young person must live away from home for a specified period. That would not need the consent of a parent.

The power could only be used where the young person had been convicted of an offence carrying a maximum penalty of life imprisonment or other serious offence of violence.

Alternatively it could be used if the young person had been persistently committed offences punishable with imprisonment when living at home. Such offences include burglary, theft, some criminal damage and minor assaults.

One reason for the proposed change is concern that a care order in criminal proceedings is indeterminate and, unless revoked, continues until the young person's eighteenth birthday.

Yesterday Miss Rachel Hodgkin, of the Children's Legal Centre, said they were worried and perplexed by the proposals, which could be seen as a return to the "approved school".

She said: "Criminal care orders are a problem, there is no doubt about that."

"But what these proposals seem to do is to jettison rather casually the whole of the welfare approach of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1969, namely that all children should be treated the same, whether 'depraved' or 'deprived'."

Young people would certainly prefer a six-month sentence than a care order which lasted for several years, she said.

However, under the proposals, young people who committed criminal offences were to be treated as a separate category from other young people in care. Local authorities would not be under the same duty to promote their

welfare as with the others.

The consultation paper says that a defect of the care order in criminal proceedings is that it deprives parents of their parental responsibility, sometimes for a substantial period, without the improved processes for participation which are proposed for civil care proceedings.

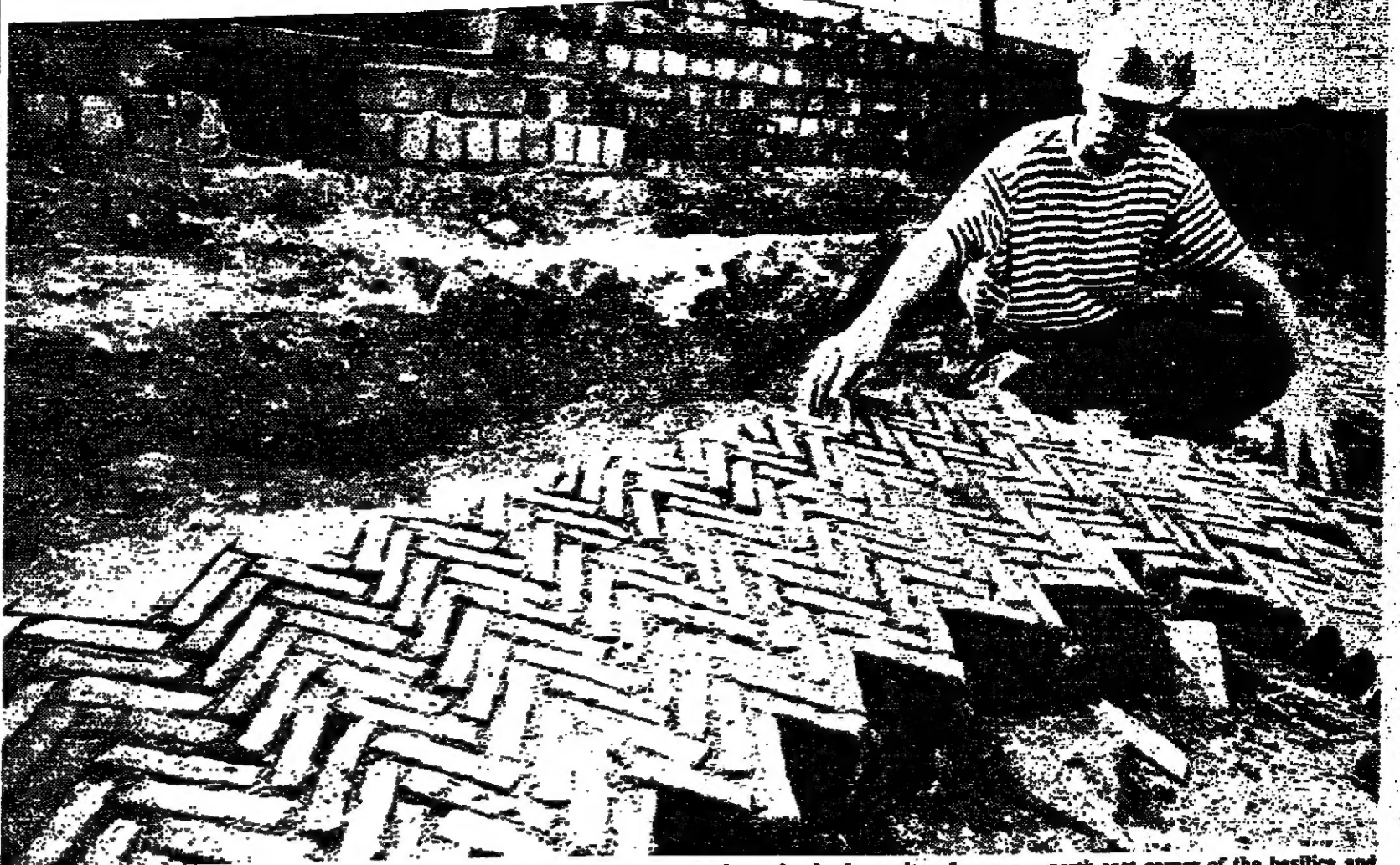
It also points out that the use of care orders in criminal proceedings has declined significantly in the past 10 years from more than 7,000 in the mid-1970s to fewer than 800 in 1987.

The review of child care law and proposed legislative reforms provide "a timely opportunity to review the place of care orders in criminal proceedings," it says.

The Government proposed in its White Paper on child care law to re-cast completely the grounds for an order in civil care proceedings and to abolish the existing conditions for such orders.

As the main issue before the court in criminal proceedings is whether an offence has been committed, that would not be compatible with the proposed revised grounds for care orders in civil proceedings, the consultation paper says.

Tiled Roman floors found in the City



By Andrew Morgan

The floor of a Roman basilica, with tiles set on edge and laid in a herringbone pattern, which has been excavated in the City of London. The floor was in a covered walkway or portico along the length of the east wall of the basilica, which was an administrative building and separated

by a gravel street from a sumptuous building which is also being excavated. This building contained red tessellated plain mosaics belonging to a suite of rooms which have also been uncovered by archaeologists from the Museum of London. The function of this second building has not been identified but it was of high quality

and consisted of a suite of rooms covered with good quality red tessellated pavements and walls covered with painted plaster. It lay to the east of the basilica. The Corporation of London is funding the excavation, which is being carried out in advance of an office and shop development at 1 to 7 Whitlington Avenue over the

north-east corner of the basilica and the lines of the north and east walls. Miss Sue Riviere, assistant excavations officer, said: "Tiles laid in a herringbone pattern have been found elsewhere in the country, such as Wroxeter in Shropshire, but never before in London."

Photograph: Tim Bishop

Scientists call meeting as 40 more seals die

By Andrew Morgan

The bodies of a further 40 common seals killed by the virus afflicting the North Sea were washed up yesterday along the Norfolk coast as the Labour Party called for an inquiry into North Sea pollution.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals called a meeting for Tuesday of scientific groups and local authorities to formulate an approach. The society last night destroyed many of the seals which were washed up to the west of Burnham Overy.

The groups, including the Nature Conservancy Council, the National Trust, local district councils, Greenpeace and the Sea Mammal Research Unit at Cambridge will consider setting up a rehabilitation centre for pups and dealing with the health hazard of beach carcasses.

Chief Inspector Mike Goodenough, of the RSPCA,

predicted that hundreds of seals would die and a concerted policy was necessary. "Just a few seals stand a chance of survival once they have the disease, but we must consider helping them."

Mr Richard Gilbert, National Trust warden at Blakeney Point, counted a further 18 bodies yesterday, bringing the total there to 70, half the Norfolk total.

Workers from West Norfolk and North Norfolk councils patrolled the coast to take away dead seals. Mr Robert Foster, environmental health officer with West Norfolk Council, said: "It is a dreadful job but humans are not susceptible to the virus."

The latest deaths came as Dr David Clark, opposition spokesman on agriculture and fisheries, called on the Government to establish a commission of experts to examine the environmental state of the North Sea.

Leading article, page 13

A kind of intellectual Olympic Games

By Renford Bambrough

Wednesday at the 18th World Congress of Philosophy in Brighton was funny coincidence day.

The first was the case of the absent interpreters. No translation into Russian, one of the five official languages of the Congress, was provided for the five o'clock lecture in the main hall of the Brighton Centre. By coincidence, the lecturer was Sir Karl Popper, author of *The Open Society and its Enemies*, a classic piece of *Glasnost*, published when that word was less well known in the West and less prized in the East.

The translation service into Russian is provided by the Soviet delegation itself. The four other languages are served by professionals from the UK. Most of the Soviet delegates wanted to go sightseeing. They gave their interpreters a half holiday. That left in the lurch the Finnish and Chinese and Japanese and other Asian philosophers who rely on the Russian version.

The second funny coincidence is that the general assembly of FISP - International Federation of Philosophical Societies - ratified the decision to hold the 1993 Congress in Moscow. The

Assembly met just a few hours before the boycott of Popper. We cannot wait for five years to know what the translation arrangements in Moscow will be like. Perhaps we shall learn from Academician I T Frolov on Saturday when he gives his lecture on *Perestroika*: its philosophical meaning and human purpose.

The FISP General Assembly is a bit like a UN general assembly. Small nations propose that super powers dispose. The American Philosophical Association strongly supported the acceptance of the Moscow invitation. In return, everything seems set for the 1998 Congress to be in Atlanta, Georgia. Kenya, whose case was mildly but effectively stated by Professor Odera Oruka, will probably have to wait until the 21st century to host the first world congress to be held in Africa.

Politics and ideology are not the only sources of conflict between philosophers. Popper recalled that when he read some of the work of his Viennese friend Rudolph Carnap on probability theory, he felt as parents feel when their son or daughter joins the Moonies. But at least

Popper and Carnap understood each other, and shared some mathematical and philosophical methods.

Some delegates in Brighton regard each other like aliens from another space. If opponents are too far apart, there is mutual incomprehension rather than conflict. Combat involves contact with the enemy. A battlefield is at least a piece of common ground.

When people share the recognition of some land marks, their disagreements can become more stable and more intelligible. In these meetings the names of Plato and Aristotle, Kant and Hegel, Locke and Descartes, recur on the lips of philosophers from all the continents. They often disagree, but common texts make discourse possible.

A good example of co-operation came in a medieval philosophy group. Modern modal logic - the study of necessity and possibility - collaborated with medieval scholarship to elucidate St Anselm's argument for the existence of God.

But such collaboration takes the form of conflict, so it is at least half right to regard the congress as a kind of intellectual Olympic Games.

Catching intellectuals when they are young

By Ruth Gledhill

Philosophy should be taught to children in junior and senior schools and not just left to academics in universities.

Academics at the congress yesterday believed it was essential to teach children at all intellectual levels to think, speak, ask questions clearly and to explain themselves.

Britain is behind much of the developed world in teaching philosophy to children, but prejudice against such teaching is widespread in education circles and among philosophers themselves.

Some say children cannot hope to study philosophy, that the philosophy taught to children is not real philosophy and that there is no point in teaching children philosophy in any case.

Mr Eric Matthews, senior lecturer in philosophy at the University of Aberdeen, told

the afternoon discussion group: "It may be true in Anglo-Saxon countries that there is a resistance to the idea of philosophy for children because of a lack of tradition of teaching it at this level."

Children can be taught about right and wrong, justice and rights, "clearly philosophical subjects."

Instead, they are trained out of their natural inclination to ask questions such as what happens to people when they die, and what is at the end of space.

Others say that philosophy discussed by children is like hearing a Beethoven symphony whistled instead of played by an orchestra.

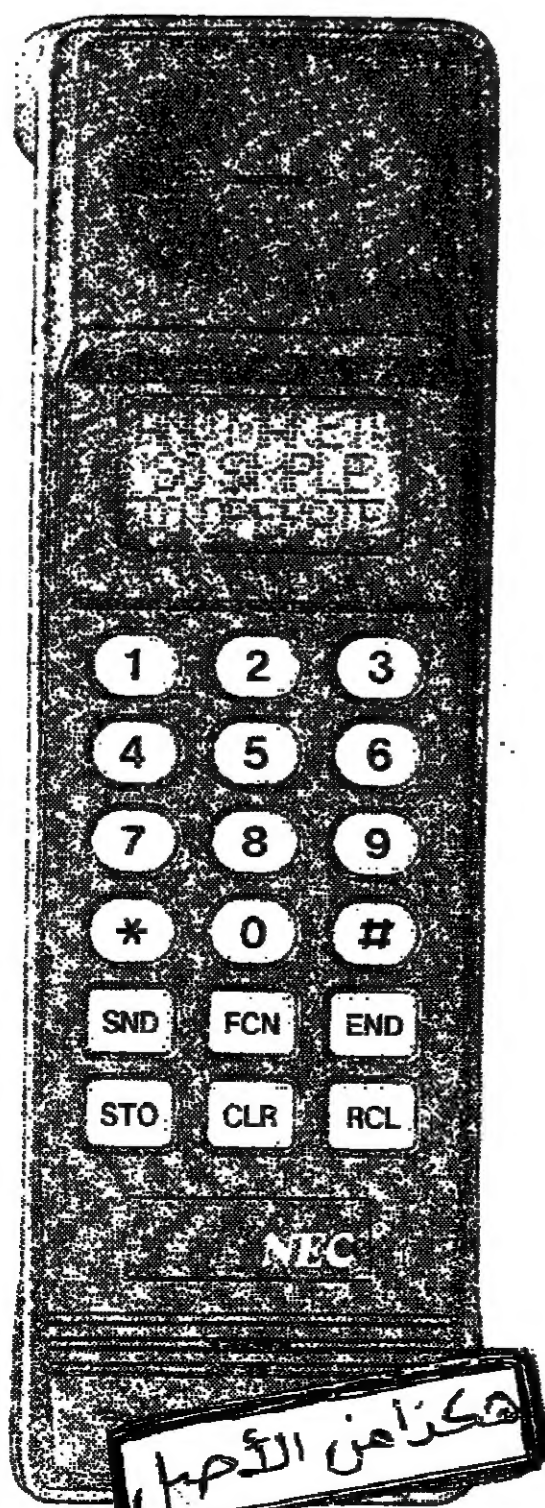
Mr Matthews added "one thing teaching philosophy does do is to teach you to respect other people's opinions."

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NEC

Weekend food prices

Stores vary over the holiday

Those who have become used to shopping for food on a Bank holiday should check first that their local stores are open. Next Monday all branches of Sainsbury and Waitrose will close. Tesco is leaving the decision to individual stores. 127 Safeways will be closed and 12 of the smaller Asda branches.

If fish is on your shopping list look out for hake. Abundant in many areas, it is cheaper than usual varying from an average £2.13 a lb in London and the South-east to £2.52 in Wales and the West. Herrings are plentiful at a national average of 90p a lb.

A further reduction of 6p a

lb can be expected on best cuts of home-produced lamb. The average lb price for whole leg is £1.85 and for loin chops £2.30. Pork still provides cheap roasting joints and particularly good value this week is boneless rolled leg.

£1.29 a lb at Tesco and boneless rolled shoulder 89p a lb at Sainsbury. While beef prices stay high Asda has home-produced rump steak, fresh or frozen, £1.99 a lb.

Vegetables are flourishing in the warm damp weather and among best buys are corn-cobs 20-45p a lb, runner beans 30-60p a lb, depending on grade, and cauliflowers 30-50p each. English sweetcorn is

20-40p a cob. Dutch pickling onions are arriving at 25-45p a lb and some shops will have autumn Jersey Royal potatoes at 28-38p a lb.

Salad vegetables are abundant with tomatoes 30-48p a lb, cucumbers 25-55p each and British iceberg lettuces 40-75p.

For desserts there are plenty of Greek Thompson seedless grapes 40-90p a lb, peaches 12-30p each, nectarines 15-25p each, pineapples from 50p-£2 each. Supplies of new season apples are building up, home grown Discovery being joined by French Golden Delicious, both 30-50p a lb.

Man charged after 'live' sink death

A heating engineer is to face a charge of manslaughter after the death of a man, aged 23, from electric shock after touching a "live" sink draining board.

Mr Nicholas French, a builder, of Cedar Close, Ashford, Kent, died while visiting his grandmother in Hillfield Villas, High Halden, near Ashford, on May 2.

An investigation was launched by Kent police and the South Eastern Electricity Board. The results were presented to the Crown Prosecution Service and a man, aged 41, from Ashford, was arrested and charged with manslaughter. He will appear at Ashford Magistrates' Court on September 8.

QC tells of bribery in Whitehall

The Government's Property Services Agency is riddled with corruption, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday when a Civil Servant was charged with taking a bribe.

Mr Michael Sayers, QC, for the prosecution, said taxpayers were cheated out of millions by Civil Servants responsible for government building contracts.

The agency had an annual budget of £2.5 billion to look after all government and Crown buildings, but funds were often misused by Civil Servants who accepted bribes from contractors, he said.

"The core of this case is a corrupt system whereby funds were diverted out of the public purse into private pockets."

Mr Roy Hughes, aged 43, a professional technical officer responsible for maintenance contracts for the Royal Chelsea Hospital, is accused of taking a bribe from Jeffrey Stow, aged 37, a building contractor.

Mr Hughes, of Seymour Road, Hampton Wick, west London, and Mr Stow, of The Saddlery, Water End, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, both deny six charges of corruption and conspiracy. The trial continues today.

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Package tour report

Outlaw unfair surcharges, consumer watchdog says

By Shona Crawford Poole, Travel Editor

Surcharges on package holiday operators held responsible when things go wrong, the National Consumer Council says in a report today.

Surcharging is unjustified, unnecessary and often unfair, the council maintains. Its chairman, Mrs Sally Oppenheim-Barnes, said: "So much is promised for so little that tour operators simply can't deliver. Consumers would prefer to pay a little more for the certainty that they will get what is advertised, at the price at which it is advertised, at the time of booking."

The report is the council's response to the European Commission's draft directive on package holidays — the holidaymakers' charter which proposes increased protection for consumers and harmonization of legal controls on tour operators applied by member states. In calling on

tour operators to accept liability for any part of a package which goes wrong — from losing holidaymakers' baggage to changing their hotels — the NCC's proposals are the toughest it has made.

They go further than the Office of Fair Trading's recent report on package holiday codes, which sidestepped the surcharging issue, and the Consumer Association's critique of the EEC draft, published last month.

The council proposes that the EEC directive should apply to package holidays whether they are offered to the public generally or to part of it, as in the case of youth or senior citizen holidays. But exclusion from its provisions should be given to non-commercial domestic packages such as day trips organized by voluntary groups.

● Tour operators should be

strictly liable for the provision of defective services under the contract, with the exception that specialist operators — for example those offering adventure holidays in wild places — should be permitted to qualify their liability provided that this is emphasized to consumers before booking.

● Standardized compensation tariffs should be introduced and set out in holiday brochures. Compensation should be paid to the consumer for shortcomings in the contracted holiday; and also in some circumstances where, for example, a tour operator decides to combine two holiday flights.

● Exclusion of liability for "force majeure" should be defined; holiday surcharges should be abolished; and tour operators and travel agents should be jointly and severally liable under new EEC rules.

Mr John McEwan, managing

Princess in prison cell meeting



Alex, left, and a fellow Barlinnie inmate who were preparing yesterday to meet the Princess Royal (Photograph: Tom Kidd).

By Kerry Gill

Alex, aged 58, serving 18 months for setting fire to his council house, sat in his cell at Barlinnie Prison, Glasgow, yesterday and asked: "What d'ye say to a princess. I've never met one before."

However, even for the likes of Alex, there is always a first time. On Wednesday, he will be introduced to the Princess Royal when she visits Barlinnie, scene of one of Scotland's worst prison riots 20 months ago.

The visit by the Princess, as royal patron of the Butler Trust, will take in one of the main halls where 203 inmates, looked after by 14 prison officers, spend most of their time.

Here, Alex will nervously welcome the Princess in his sparsely-decorated cell, happily free of the explicit pin-ups that adorn many other cells.

Mr Alan Walker, governor of Barlinnie since July last year, said it would be up to the Princess whether she wanted to visit other cells. "I understand the Princess is a pretty robust lady, but although it is a prison cell, it is still some

guy's home and I would not take her in unless the prisoner was there and said yes."

Mr Walker's attitude typifies the change at Barlinnie in the past six months. Scotland's biggest penal establishment is being extensively refurbished, but it is the change in morale that is most striking.

At one point, six young inmates gathered in one cell eating a lunch which looked relatively appetizing. "It's not bad when you think they've got to cook for 1,000," James, fresh from a spell in the 21-cell segregation unit after being found with drugs, said.

The segregation unit is set aside for inmates under punishment for various misdemeanours. Normally, a prisoner will spend 14 days there, but that can be extended by the Secretary of State.

Another prisoner, Mandy, aged 63, has spent most of the past 40 years in prison. Serving six months for causing a disturbance in a social security office, as he put it, he said: "I have been 32 days out of prison in the past four years. I enjoy it here. You get your food and blankets."

However, Jim, aged 31, said he preferred his last visit 10 years ago. "It used to be a stricter regime and you didn't get so much trouble then."

Mr Walker, who has turned around the morale of prison officers to the extent that staff are applying to come to Barlinnie rather than other jails, said: "This is not a boys' boarding school, it is a prison. I am not soft."

He and the staff have introduced schemes to help prisoners' families, such as the Toybox project, which started this week, bringing local women into the prison to look after children while wives and girlfriends are visiting.

The number of prison officers sick on one day last March peaked at 106 out of about 290, but the average is down to 18. A few months ago, officers in the segregation unit wore helmets, visors and shields to protect them from attack or having urine hurled over them. They were either in normal uniform or overalls yesterday.

The Princess will present Butler Trust awards to people whose work in the penal system has merited distinction.

Big rise in arrests of British tourists

By Nicholas Wood and David Cross

The criminal behaviour of British tourists has spread to Greece with a fourfold rise in the number of arrests, the Foreign Office disclosed yesterday in what it described as a development of "considerable concern".

Mr Timothy Eggar, the Under Secretary of State, is to discuss the latest figures with Mr Nikos Skoulas, the Greek Minister for Tourism, at a meeting of Common Market tourism ministers in Greece, in a week's time.

Mr Eggar also disclosed that the number of British tourists arrested this summer in Spain has also risen, from 181 last year to 227 this year.

The minister said that most of the Greek arrests, up from 20 to 80, were for petty crime such as shoplifting and burglary, committed by people who had run out of money.

Unlike the offences of other foreign nationals in holiday destinations, those perpetrated by Britons tended to be drink-related, Mr Eggar said.

The figures cover the three-month period from May to July and coincide with a new effort by the Government to curb the excesses of British holidaymakers abroad. British tour operators said yesterday that they were doing their best to help the Spanish

working together with Mr Eggar and Foreign Office officials for the past year.

One of the things which travel agents are being advised to do is not to allow groups of young people to go out drinking on their own. "If you send your local representative out with them then he can ensure that drinking is kept within limits," the Abta spokesman said.

In an experiment which is already being hailed as a success, the town of San Antonio, in Ibiza, has introduced a set of holiday-control measures in collaboration with 20 British travel agents. While advertising the delights of the town in their brochures, the firms emphasize that any persistent troublemaker will be sent home.

After the damage done to Britain's reputation by the drunken brawling of English soccer supporters during the European Championships,

ministers have become increasingly concerned about loutish behaviour among those going abroad.

Mr Eggar said: "There is no doubt that if you go to the main tourist areas that some Britons are behaving badly, and it is a very, very small minority."

"But it's a small minority that gives the whole of us, the country and British tourists, a bad name."

"What we are trying to do is to make sure that that small minority does not ruin everything for other Britons abroad. It is perfectly reasonable to expect Britons not to break the laws of countries they are visiting."

In July record numbers of official leaflets, with the slogan "Get it right before you go", were distributed by tour companies to travellers and a short film, linked to the campaign, was screened 200 times by television channels.

Hosts to 'invasion of the barbarians'

By Mario Modiano, Athens

Corfu and Crete are enduring what Greek residents call another "invasion of the barbarians".

"There is trouble every night in such places as Benitses, Moraitika and Gouvia", according to Mrs Philippa Hughes, newly appointed British consul and a resident of Corfu for 22 years.

"They will be dancing in the streets, getting into drunken brawls and blocking the roads", she said.

Ten years ago, Benitses, about eight miles south of Corfu town, was a quiet fishing village of 500 people. Today it pretends to be an Anglicized tourist resort with hundreds of public houses and discotheques and cheap, unlicensed rented rooms.

Until 3am pink-faced row-

dies in crew-cuts and tattoos, very drunk, will take over the place and terrorize other tourists. Often they wear nothing but union flag shorts, hire motorcycles and amuse themselves forcing other cars off the road. There have been many accidents.

The Greeks refer to the influx of British rowdies as the "invasion of the barbarians" and avoid them, although shopkeepers and bar-owners seem more tolerant.

The police said: "As far as we are concerned, British tourists are, were, and will be our best clients."

"People want them to come. Of course when you get 10,000 people in the streets making merry, you are bound to get some trouble. It is up to us to keep law and order."

Trapped by drugs and large drinks

By Harry Debellis, Madrid

The British honorary vice-consul makes a daily visit to Benidorm jail throughout the summer to see if there are any new "clients." Usually there are several, sleeping off a violent binge.

Other British officials are regular visitors to south coast Spanish prisons such as Malaga and Algeiras. Most of the Britons they talk to are locked up for drug offences, mainly smuggling hashish and marijuana, and most were arrested soon after reaching Spain from Morocco.

Yet, despite the frequency of incidents involving Britons on holiday and the seriousness of some of them, less than 2 per cent of the 7.5 million British visitors to Spain annually need consular help.

Those who step out of line

often find themselves with more trouble than they bargained for, as in the case of five young men arrested in Majorca last month after a drunken brawl in which a local taxi driver died from a heart attack. They were eventually released, but they are not likely to forget the scorn with which they were treated by fellow prisoners.

A pitfall for young British holidaymakers is the abundance of cheap and large alcoholic on sale all day and most of the night.

Most Britons jailed for trouble-making are quickly released: only 806 were held for more than 24 hours by Spanish authorities last year, and most were freed within a few days after a court case. A few were expelled.

Economy class flying 'may be fatal'

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

The cramped seating conditions of cheap package holiday flights and economy class fares can be fatal, doctors have warned long-distance passengers.

The travellers are at risk of having deep-vein thrombosis (blood clots in the leg veins) or a pulmonary embolism (sudden blockage of a heart artery) because they sit hunched for hours with little freedom of movement.

The risks are increased if they consume too much alcohol while airborne which, combined with low cabin humidity, can cause dehydration, the doctors say in *The Lancet*.

An article entitled "Air Travel and Thrombotic Epi-

sodes: The Economy Class Syndrome" says often the first symptoms happen only days or even weeks after the flight. But about 10 of the 61 sudden deaths recorded at Heathrow Airport during a three-year survey were probably due to a pulmonary embolism.

The victims tended to be women aged over 40 with a history of deep-vein thrombosis. Men in the same age group were also vulnerable, the survey showed.

Dr John Cruickshank, a senior medical researcher with ICI Pharmaceuticals, Dr Richard Corlin, of the Mount Sinai Medical Centre, New York, and Professor Bryan Jennett, of the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow, said: "Jour-

neys as short as three to four hours, may be potentially dangerous."

"Affluence, cheap travel package holidays and international business activity ensure that long-distance air travel has become commonplace. However, the hazards of such long trips, often under cramped conditions, are not appreciated by most travellers, and the airline companies make no effort to enlighten them."

Two of the doctors writing the article had suffered symptoms. Dr Cruickshank, aged 48, "non-obese, regular exercising with no history of any cardiovascular event" was admitted to hospital after travelling economy class on a

lecture tour to Japan and the Far East.

After the trip he suffered leg and chest pains and needed anticoagulant therapy for three months. He says he now avoids travelling economy on long-haul flights, sits in aisle seats rather than at a window where there is less freedom of movement, goes for numerous walks around the cabin, avoids alcohol and keeps well-hydrated with non-alcoholic drinks.

Professor Jennett, aged 60, developed chest pains after flying business class from Washington to London. He needed hospital treatment and had to have anticoagulants for almost six months.

Censors view film on Christ

Andrew Morgan

Senior members of the British Board of Film Classification yesterday viewed the controversial American film, *The Last Temptation of Christ*, along with the 21 members of the examining panel.

They are expected to announce today or early next week their classification, and whether any cuts are required in the film, which has met with religious and critical opposition in the US.

The film had several screenings at the board's headquarters in west London, attended by Lord Harewood, the board's president, Mr James Ferman, the board's director, and Miss Monica Simms and Lord Birkett, the two vice-presidents.

The board had intense discussions on the film, made by Martin Scorsese, which was criticized for a sequence showing Christ fantasizing about sexual relations with Mary Magdalen.

The board will take legal advice on whether the film contravenes blasphemy law which was confirmed after Mrs Mary Whitehouse, president of the National Viewers and Listeners Association, successfully prosecuted *Gay News* in 1977.

Mr Ferman has said that he believed from hearsay and other evidence that the film did not contravene blasphemy law. He has said it appeared to be a serious and dignified attempt to show the paradox of Christ as both God and Man.

The Attorney General's office has written to Mrs Whitehouse, saying the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions would view the film after its certification to see if any action would be taken.

Mrs Whitehouse yesterday said she would abide by the DPP's verdict.

However, her association will contact groups and individuals who had written to her, urging them to ask local viewing committees to stop the film. Letters, page 13

Job vacancy policy 'wrong'

By Roland Rudd, Employment Affairs Reporter

The Government's emphasis on the record number of job vacancies is a mistake because they do not reduce unemployment, but are filled by job-changers and new entrants to the labour market, according to a report published yesterday.

The Independent Unemployment Unit says few jobs remain unfilled for long and cannot be thought of as a static pool waiting for the unemployed.

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Employment, has concentrated on these vacancies to reduce unemployment. The Government has made adult training a priority so more jobs can be acquired by the unemployed.

However, each month about 400,000 people enter unemployment — either as a consequence of leaving a job or newly entering the labour market.

In the year to May, 1988, an average inflow of 230,800 new

Jobcentre vacancies each month was balanced by an average outflow of 228,600 filled vacancies. Notified vacancies are filled within 2.4 weeks in the North-west and 4.8 weeks in the South-east.

Unemployed claimants are competing with employed job-changers and new entrants to the labour market. But the longer a person is out of work the harder it is for them to compete successfully, the report says.

Training will help the unemployed but if there are not enough jobs to go round, the "labour market becomes a game of musical chairs" as long-term unemployed compete against short-term unemployed for work.

The unit challenges the widespread view that skill shortages are the most serious obstruction to claimants getting vacancies.

The report maintains that the demand for part-time

employees and the geographical location of job opportunities is the problem.

Part-time work accounts for 27 per cent of notified vacancies, while more than 70 per cent of non-Jobcentre vacancies are part-time. That rules out unemployed people filling those jobs because their benefit is conditional on seeking full-time work.

Three-quarters of Jobcentre vacancies are for seasonal work — especially in the hotel, catering and retail sectors — which also cuts out opportunities for the long-term unemployed.

Geographical scarcities vary considerably. In the North of England, 26 claimants chase each notified full-time vacancy, while in the South-east (excluding London) the number drops to five.

Vacant Expression by Dr David Taylor (Unemployment Bulletin Issue 27, 9 Poland Street, London W1V 3DG; £3).

Footballing schoolgirls invade male domain

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Roy of the Rovers might soon be meeting Wendy of the Wanderers on the playing field.

The men who run English football are at last facing the demands of a vociferous, if young, body of women who want to be taken seriously.

In what could be described as an own goal, the English Schools' Football Association has conceded that its recent survey reveals that there are large numbers of schoolgirls who want to play competitive football, both with and against the boys.

Until now the association has ruled girls offside, pointing to its charitable status which charges it with the care of "schoolboy football".

An ESFA spokesman made it quite plain yesterday: "We will probably allow girls' teams to play against each other in a school league, although we

will have to change our charitable status."

"Primary schools will be allowed to have boys and girls teams playing against each other."

"Sometimes it will be all girls against all boys, sometimes it will be a mixture. But it will stop there."

"There will be no mixed teams of secondary age. And certainly no boys against girls."

Which echoes the earlier views of Mr Ted Croker, secretary of the Football Association, football's governing body, when he said: "We just don't like males and females playing together."

"I like feminine girls. Anyway, it is not natural."

The first moves will be made next month when the council meeting of the English Schools' Football Association

is expected to approve, for the first time, the inclusion of girls into competitive football.

A second recommendation, which is also likely to be passed, will allow primary schools to run mixed soccer leagues.

The ESFA questionnaire was completed by 2,030 of the 13,456 schools contacted.

Of these, 82 per cent reported a demand for schoolgirl football, 37.6 per cent for a girls' team, 57.1 per cent said there were teachers prepared to organize coaching, and 60.1 per cent said that they already had "football activities" for girls, much of it mixed.

Primary schools are particularly keen to take the field.

A majority of the 1,010 replied said that more than 10 of their pupils

wanted to play competitive football, many of them wanted to play in mixed teams.

The London borough of Ealing is already planning a mixed soccer league with 11 primary schools wanting to take part.

The ESFA report was compiled by two retired headteachers, Mr James Robinson and Mr Harold Page, who recommended that school football associations made arrangements for girls' football, including mixed teams of primary age.

Mr Robinson told this week's *Times Educational Supplement*: "This step is now necessary if football is going to be accepted in the modern world. Girls must be allowed to play school football."

But will Roy of the Rovers really want to play when his captain is a girl?

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Icy start to Gulf peace talks jeopardizes hopes of reconciliation

From Andrew McEwen, Geneva



Mr Ali Akbar Velayati, Iran's Foreign Minister (left) avoiding eye contact with his Iraqi counterpart Mr Tariq Aziz, who puffs on a cigar as he waits for the Geneva talks to begin.

Baghdad drive for Arab leadership

From Michael Hamlyn, Baghdad

The first international figure of any significance to visit President Saddam Hussein of Iraq after the Gulf War ceasefire became effective was Mr Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The two men were photographed smiling together in armchair formality, and the official word was that they spoke of "the situation in the Arab world and issues of mutual interest".

There was speculation that they might have been discussing the possible establishment of a Palestine government in exile in Baghdad. But whatever was discussed the real importance of the meeting was that it marked the determination of the Iraqi Government to become once more a major player in Arab politics.

There has been a similar signal for the Arabs to read in the Government-controlled press. Three times this week on the front page of the *Baghdad Observer* has been a photograph of President Saddam — a far from unusual event, of course — but instead of being in the uniform of a field marshal, or even in the olive green combat gear of the Baath Party leader, the President has appeared in civilian clothes. Moreover, these were not the Western-style suit and tie. He was sporting the full Arab traditional costume.

There was no caption to the photograph but the message was unmistakable. As a Western diplomat here pointed out: "Iraq is a power when it faces south and west, and an underdog when it faces north and east. If it could get rid of its problem from the north and east, it could lord it over its neighbours."

There is obviously some fear among the states to the south and west that this may happen. In Saudi Arabia, for example, there is no enthusiasm to see Iraq in the role of leader of the Arab mainstream, for that is a role the Saudis themselves have felt most comfortable in.

No doubt that was in the mind of the Saudi Government when it brought pressure to bear on Iraq to agree to the ceasefire. Iraq happened to feel that its fortunes had changed and it had a good chance of delivering a striking defeat to the Iranians, which was why they believed the Ayatollahs had finally come round to accepting Resolution 598. But an Iraq which had conquered Iran, and was not only militarily strong but self-confident too, would have been more than the Saudis could bear.

The pressure that Saudi Arabia brought has been much resented in official circles in Baghdad (together with pressure from other sources, too) and statements not too opaque have been given by officials, full of this resentment at the "attitude which some international powers are going to take towards the Arab nation with Iraq in the forefront" after the ceasefire.

Iraq's relations with Syria have not been improved by the ceasefire, and a hate campaign in the press appears to have been building. Syria "has an unmatched record of collusion with Iran against Iraq and the Arab nation. It has fuelled the Iranian war machine for years," declared an editorial this week.

The article concludes: "The regime in Syria has lost the right to stay within the Arab fold and has to be expelled from the Arab League. To maintain contacts with the Syrian Government means encouraging it, and taking part in its crimes against the Arab nation."

Clearly personal relations between President Saddam and President Assad of Syria, the one a Sunni Muslim leading a majority of Shias, the other an Alawite Shia leading a mainly Sunni country, are as bad as the heads of rival wings of the same Baath Party can be.

But personal relations are likely to dominate all such contacts, for the Government of Iraq is very much a one-man affair. The war has not altered the position of the President, who is maintained in power by a formidable security apparatus, and a network of loyalists, spies and relatives.

The huge difficulties of turning the Gulf ceasefire into a viable peace were underlined yesterday when negotiating teams from Iran and Iraq held their first meeting at the United Nations in Geneva.

Not a smile, much less a handshake, passed between them as they marched stiff and expressionless into the talks. It had taken the combined efforts of the five permanent members of the Security Council and many other nations to persuade them to come this far, and at the last moment it had looked as if they might balk.

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, had entered first with five aides to sit at a long bench. Two other benches were arranged in the form of a blunt triangle in front so that the reluctant interlocutors could look at him rather than each other if they wished.

As the minutes passed the Secretary-General looked more and more puzzled at the failure of the two parties to emerge. Flunkies with radio earpieces hurried backwards and forwards between the two rival delegations.

Gradually it became clear that neither wished to take the plunge first. After an embarrassing 10 minutes, matters were co-ordinated so that they filed into the chamber through directly opposing doors at precisely the same moment. Honour had been satisfied.

They sat in total silence, without greetings of any kind while photographers recorded what may prove to have been an historic moment.

The Iraqis looked happier than the Iranians, but their smiles were for each other, not directed across the room.

The chilling atmosphere was a reminder that a lack of war is no guarantee of peace and that any hope of reconciliation is premature.

The cultural divide was as evident as the hostility. The 15 Iraqis displayed their Western leanings by wearing smart suits and silk ties, contrasting with the open-necked shirts and more old-fashioned cuts of the Iranians. All but four of the Iraqis wore beards, which for many Shia Muslims have a strong religious symbolism. All but two of the Iraqis wore mustaches, which have little to do with religion but help to identify with their leader, President Saddam Hussein.

The council chamber, a 1930s relic of the League of Nations, was the scene of the Afghanistan Accords signed in April. But no-one expects these talks to lead to results in an easily foreseeable time scale.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar faces the daunting task of bringing about full implementation of Security Council Resolution 598, the legal basis for the ceasefire. It requires "both sides to withdraw all forces to internationally recognized boundaries, without specifying where the borders lie."

It calls for an impartial body to investigate which side started the war, for which both countries hold the other responsible. Most observers believe the historical evidence. This points at Baghdad, which could ultimately give Tehran a basis on which to claim war reparations. But with Baghdad in a far stronger military and economic position, its negotiators are unlikely to compromise easily.

Britain and many other nations have applauded the Secretary-General's achievement in bringing both parties to the table. But whether he can keep them there looked uncertain yesterday.

A United Nations spokesman described the talks as "businesslike" and said they were being conducted in three languages — English, Persian and Arabic. They are expected to continue today and on Sunday. The Secretary-General plans to appoint a representative to take over his role if they continue more than a few days.

Although no names have been announced, speculation has centred on M Edmond Brummer, a senior Swiss diplomat. A second possible candidate is M Pierre Aubert, a former Foreign Minister of Switzerland.

Señor Pérez de Cuellar will also be involved in attempts to bring the conflict in the western Sahara between the Polisario Front and the Moroccan Government to an end.

People power takes over in Burma as military regime crumbles

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

More than 25 years of dictatorial rule by Burma's Socialist military regime appears to be drawing to a close, according to Western diplomats in Rangoon. They reported that the Burmese capital and many other cities and towns were now in the hands of the people.

They said that the Army and police had completely withdrawn from the scene the Government could no longer look to them for support. Even the greatly feared Military Intelligence Agency had gone over to the opposition. An acceptable interim government was now needed to maintain law and order.

Last night, the only soldiers still visibly on duty in Rangoon were outside the Union Bank of Burma. Reports from all over the country indicated that the security forces were not prepared to act against anti-government groups.

At Moulmein, the port city in the south-east of the country, gangs were allowed a free hand to smash their way with battering rams into the houses of officials of the ruling Socialist Programme Party.

In other coastal areas officials escaped from mobs by boat.

At Myawadi, on the Thai border, Burmese troops were reported to have walked away when Karen rebel guerrillas began moving towards the town.

The Government gave more ground yesterday with the release of retired Army Brigadier Gyi, who has emerged in recent months as the loudest critic of the Government. Nine other detainees, including the correspondent of the Associated Press, U Sein Win, were also set free. They were arrested when the present campaign against the Government began a month ago.

Last night, U Aung Gyi addressed a rally in a working class suburb of Rangoon, drawing huge numbers of people from the tens of thousands who went on strike and filled the streets all day. U Aung Gyi, aged 70, is seen as a possible leader of a popular democratic government that might emerge from the unrest.

He was a close colleague in the Army and in the government of General Ne Win who was forced to resign last month after 26 years as Burma's leader. U Aung Gyi broke with General Ne Win in the early days of his regime because he opposed wholesale nationalization of business and industry.

The general strike was virtually complete in Rangoon yesterday. All places of business were closed and government offices deserted. State-owned newspapers did not come out, and radio and television broadcasts were curtailed when employees joined the strike. The demonstrations were cheerful and orderly. The crowds shouted: "Strike, strike", "Democracy is at hand", and "No time to wait". The latter slogan was a reference to the two and a half weeks before the Government decides whether there is to be a referendum proposing a return to a multi-party democracy.

Some posters said "One man could pay the national debt" in a contemptuous reference to General Ne Win, who is believed to have accumulated great wealth during his years in power.

A demonstration planned for today is attracting enormous attention. The daughter of Burma's late nationalist leader, General Aung San, who led the country to independence, will address a rally at Rangoon's Shwedagon Pagoda, which for decades has been the rallying point for political dissidents.

The portrait of Daw Aung San Su Kyi's father has been carried by the demonstrators. He is regarded as a national martyr as he was murdered with seven other national leaders only six months before independence.

Many Burmese say of his daughter, who is 42, that "her name is magic here". However, she is married to an Englishman and lives in England. She is in Rangoon visiting her mother who is ill.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Tear gas used on Soweto strikers

Johannesburg — More than 3,000 black strikers staging a big protest in Soweto, illegal under the country's state of emergency, were yesterday baton-charged by police, who also fired tear gas from the air (Ray Kennedy writes). The demonstrators were Soweto Town Council workers and members of the South African Municipal Workers' Union who have been on strike for five weeks over pay.

● CAPE TOWN: A black trade unionist, Mr Alfred Makalele, aged 27, has been admitted to a Johannesburg hospital in a serious condition from prison, where he had been held without trial since June 1986, according to the Congress of South African Trade Unions here, which claimed he was "brain dead" (Michael Hornsby writes).

Journalists barred

Hong Kong (AFP) — The Singapore Government has turned away two journalists, Rodney Tasker of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, and Rocky Pura of the *Asian Wall Street Journal*, who had planned to cover the country's elections on September 3, the two publications said here yesterday.

Neither paper has a Singapore-based correspondent after their last reporters there were refused visa renewals. The two Hong Kong-based regional publications had their circulations curbed in Singapore after being accused by the Government of meddling in domestic politics.

Stray helicopters held

Islamabad — Pakistani tribesmen have captured two Soviet-built army helicopters and the three Soviet soldiers, two Afghans and an Indian on board, according to officials in the Parachinar area yesterday (Hasan Akhtar writes).

A report said that two helicopters which flew from Afghanistan into Pakistan airspace landed in Terimangal, 265 miles west of Islamabad. On spotting the helicopters, tribesmen and Afghan refugees are reported to have surrounded the intruders and forced them to surrender.

Overcrowded islands

Sydney (AP) — The tiny South Pacific country of Kiribati announced yesterday that it was resettling almost 5,000 people on faraway atolls because the main island group was too overcrowded.

Radio Kiribati said the Government will move 4,700 residents of the Gilberts group to Fanning and Washington islands, some 2,000 miles east of the capital, Tarawa. Kiribati, a former British protectorate which used to be known as the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, has a mainly Micronesian population of 61,000 spread across 33 islands.

Zola Budd to marry

Johannesburg — Zola Budd, the South African-born runner who was given British citizenship four years ago, has become engaged in her home town of Bloemfontein. Her fiancé, Mr Mike Pieterse, aged 26, is part-owner of an off-licence and the son of a local businessman. They met two years ago during one of Miss Budd's visits to the country.

Earlier this year Miss Budd came back to South Africa with her athletics career in tatters. It would now appear that she has decided to resettle permanently in South Africa and is unlikely to return to Britain to resume running.

Sudan anxious to placate Britain over aid attack

From Catherine Bennett in Khartoum and Nicholas Beeston in London

The Prime Minister of Sudan, Mr Sadiq al-Mahdi, now appears anxious to restore the goodwill with Britain which has been waning fast since the Tuesday afternoon tea party at which his Information Minister attacked Britons for their "shameful" aid effort.

Mr al-Mahdi said he did not endorse Mr Abdul Muhammad Ahmed's complaint that British aid was all the more contemptible because Britain owed Sudan a debt for having exploited it in the past.

"No, I don't endorse those comments," he said. "I don't think anything warrants this kind of language. I think the British relationship with Sudan is one which has had its ups and downs, but we are now trying to cultivate the ups."

In London, the Sudanese Charge d'Affaires, Mr Sayed Gubara Abdelrahman Gubara, was summoned to the Foreign Office yesterday and asked to substantiate Mr Ahmed's allegations that Britain had not given enough aid.

Mr Alan Goulty, the head of the Near East and North Africa department, told the Sudanese envoy that the British Government and people had been among the earliest to respond to calls for help.

Mr al-Mahdi, who spoke in a placatory and agreeable manner, said he was not complaining about the quantity of British aid. "I think this is a matter which is rather voluntary... we cannot be asking people to do this or that. We have got problems and we think people respond to those problems according to their own estimation."

Mr al-Mahdi's amiable demeanour did not, however, extend to forgiving the Press or to immediate lifting of censorship, although he said he would look at it.

"The measures are measures to monitor because there have been — if you read the British press and other press and media — a lot of misinformation and a lot of exaggeration," he said, denying particularly reports that central Khartoum faced imminent inundation and evacuation or that there was any danger of cholera or other epidemic diseases.

The Prime Minister did not mention the flooding in the north of Sudan, where circumstances for the inhabitants of the towns of Dongola, Marawi and Atbara appeared to be worsening and many areas are now so severely flooded that they can only be reached by plane.

The Red Crescent in Khartoum estimates that 100,000 people besieged in rural flooded areas are now urgently in need of medical care, tents and food. Aerial surveys show that a quarter of all the houses along the Nile bank between Atbara and Dongola have been washed away and that islands in the Nile have been flooded.

For the flood victims trapped between the rising Nile and the Nubian Desert, the immediate needs are for food and tents — the intense heat in this area makes plastic sheeting useless.

Food shortages have become so severe that two days ago the British Embassy chartered an aircraft and evacuated seven British aid workers from Atbara.

In Khartoum itself, many relief workers do not share the Prime Minister's sanguine approach to the floods: The River Nile continues to rise and relief agencies in Ethiopia report that heavy rains are continuing around the river's source.

And whether central Khartoum is flooded or not, non-government organizations say there is still a pressing need for tents, sheeting and food — the very supplies so depreciated by the Information Minister on Tuesday afternoon.

Bush and Quayle air the party's traditional themes

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

Vice-President George Bush and Senator Dan Quayle have launched a fiercely combative attempt to emerge from the controversies that have dogged their bid for the White House for nearly two weeks, challenging their Democratic rivals on the classic Republican issues of patriotism, the economy and defence.

Mr Quayle for the first time was able to talk about his political beliefs as controversies surrounding him appeared to ease.

He told a supportive convention of National Guards in St Louis that the defence and foreign policies of Governor Michael Dukakis, the Democratic presidential contender, were "a litany of retreat."

In a speech that senior Republican aides described as a possible turning point for his troubled candidacy, the vice-presidential contender castigated Mr Dukakis's positions as "a replay of the McGovern-Carter-Mondale dogma that has shoved the modern Democratic Party over to the far left."

He made one quick reference to the furor of his alleged use of family influence to get into the National Guard to avoid being sent to Vietnam in 1969. To loud cheers by 2,000 National Guardsmen he said: "When I entered the Guard I was not seeking special treatment. I wasn't looking for favours. I served loyally and I served to the best of my ability. Nearly 20 years ago I had no reason to be ashamed of my service. And you know what? I'm sure as hell not ashamed of it now."

Throughout a day of campaigning in Kentucky and Ohio, Mr Quayle championed his party's military build-up and job-training programmes.

He pushed a message of reducing government bureaucracy and forming a government-business partnership to create jobs. And he pointedly drew attention to Mr Dukakis's lack of experience in foreign policy.

As he was speaking, Mr Bush was standing by President Reagan's side in a colourful campaign rally in Los Angeles.

In private conversation, the President reportedly advised Mr Bush to keep Mr Quayle on the ticket in the hope that the controversies would fade away. Most Republican analysts agree that dropping the senator from the ticket now would inflict perhaps fatal damage on Mr Bush's campaign.

In his newly combative style, the Vice-President intensified his battle with Mr Dukakis over the pledge of allegiance in schools, an issue that strikes the heart of Republican patriotism.

He said he would have signed a Massachusetts Bill that Mr Dukakis vetoed in 1977 requiring teachers to lead their classes in the pledge.

"What is it about the pledge of allegiance that upsets him so much?" he declared. "It is hard for me to imagine that the founding fathers would have objected to teachers leading students in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States."

A *Wall Street Journal*-NBC opinion poll published yesterday shows that Mr Bush has staged a big comeback, reversing a 10-point lead in a similar poll two weeks ago. He now has a 47-40 per cent lead over the Democrats. His approval ratings also rose. But twice as many likely voters favoured Senator Lloyd Bentsen, the Democratic vice-presidential candidate, over Mr Quayle.

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Karajan lays down his magic wand in Salzburg

From John Holland, Vienna

Herbert von Karajan took one large step away from the artistic limelight yesterday when he announced that he will step down as a director of the Salzburg Festival after its closing night next week. It is understood, though, that he will continue to conduct both operas and concerts at the festival.

When he took over the festival's direction 30 years ago he quickly led it to artistic and financial success. His legendary iron will has bordered on the tyrannical, according to his detractors, and Herr von Karajan has never been short of jealous enemies.

Yet the world's best classical performers have considered it a privilege to be invited by Herr von Karajan to perform at Salzburg, doubly so if he was conducting as well. His decision is likely to cast a temporary shadow over the future of the festival.

His health has been cited as the main factor. During an unusually hot August the 80-year-old conductor has been forced to cancel three performances of *Don Giovanni* due to circulatory problems. However, he appears determined to conduct the two scheduled performances this weekend of Brahms's *Deutsches Requiem*.

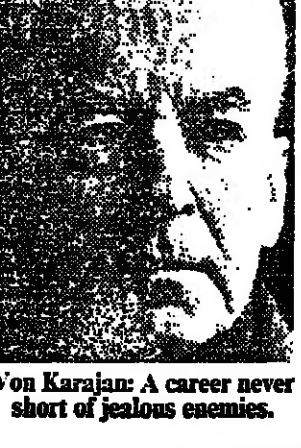
His announced resignation is the latest blow to the festival, which has recently suffered from internal squabbling among its four-member board. There have been suggestions in some quarters that disagreements, as well as ill health, have prompted Herr von Karajan's decision.

In the past, Herr von Karajan, because of his keen business acumen and large financial stake in the festival, not only coaxed performers to new heights artistically but was also thought to have threatened some with contract cancellation.

His friendship with the president of the festival, Herr Albert Moser, who received the maestro's cart, four-line resignation on Wednesday, is well known. Herr Moser's term expires in 1991. One possible successor, Herr Gerd Bacher, is a controversial figure well known from his days as director of Austrian television, ORF. Never one to suffer equal egos gladly, Herr von Karajan may have seen his power in even greater jeopardy.

"The directorate of the Salzburg Festival accepts the announcement by Herbert von Karajan with the deepest regret," a statement said adding that "it respected" his decision.

Herr von Karajan's office will shed no light, leaving it to others to speculate whether his health is now so frail that it may also force him to give up his post as lifetime director of the Berlin Philharmonic.



Von Karajan: A career never short of jealous enemies.

Skhs ha
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Marcos fear
Single paren
Space debris
Police killed
Poison mail

New spirit of hope rises in dusty alleys of Sidon camps

**From Robert Fisk
Ein el-Hilwe Camp, Sidon**

Take a look at the entrance to Mr Yasser Arafat's only military stronghold and you would never guess the degree of anger and hope that exists inside. You cannot even say that Ein el-Hilwe has a gateway, just a narrow track between two dust-covered huts and a row of corrugated iron shacks guarded by a very old anti-aircraft gun that has been mounted on the back of a battered green truck.

It is easy to think that the 75,000 Palestinians who live here, in the neighbouring camp of Mish Mish and in Sidon itself still live under the shroud of despair which many of them constructed for themselves as far back as 1948.

But the Palestinian uprising 150 miles to the south has transformed all that. Walk through the alleys of Ein el-Hilwe, talk to the young Palestinian commanders, and it is easy to see why the Israelis fear the *intifada* that has seized the West Bank and Gaza. For in its way, it has spread here, too.

The people of Ein el-Hilwe want a government in exile and a Palestinian from Lebanon in a PLO cabinet to ensure that they — not just the West Bankers — can live in a future Palestinian state.

They have collected money for the Palestinians of the occupied territories — 10 million Lebanese pounds (about £17,500) handed over by the slum-dwellers of Ein el-Hilwe to be transferred through Sidon and Jordanian banks to Nablus and Ramallah in the West Bank.

Ever mindful of the symbolism of what is happening, leaders of the various Palestinian factions in Ein el-Hilwe — from Mr Arafat's own Fatah guerrilla movement to the far more sinister figures behind Abu Nidal's extremist organisation — arranged that the inhabitants should donate blood for West Bank and Gaza hospitals. Women were encouraged to knit hundreds of sweaters. Both blood and pull-overs were duly sent off for trans-shipment by the International Red Cross.

Up on the hot, grey hill above Ein el-Hilwe, the PLO's radio station — the Voice of Palestine — is grandiosely called — is broadcasting again after the Israeli air raid that destroyed its transmitter two weeks ago. Its damaged equipment can now only reach parts of Galilee but repairs should soon enable the radio to fill the airwaves above the West Bank again.

The Arabic service broadcasts 24 hours a day, almost exclusively about the uprising, and two Hebrew-speaking Palestinians read the news for any Israelis curious enough to listen. PLO officials say it was the Hebrew service that the Israelis wished to destroy.

There are, of course, guns in evidence in Ein el-Hilwe, pistols in hip pockets, Kalashnikov rifles on shoulders, but it is a political rather than an armed presence that no one notices in these mean streets.

Mr Ramzi Rabah, the leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine in the Sidon area, speaks slowly and with conviction about the uprising in which he cannot take part. He is a small, round man who speaks as scathingly of the Palestinians who helped smash the PLO in Beirut on Syria's behalf, as he does of the Israelis.

"The *intifada* is one of the most important events in the Palestinian struggle," he says.

Sidon (Reuters) — Israeli gunboats attacked Palestinian targets east of the southern Lebanese port of Sidon yesterday, causing fires and heavy damage. Police said that three Israeli gunboats off the coast 25 miles south of Beirut had fired at least six rockets at the Ein el-Hilwe and Mish Mish Palestinian refugee camps. Israeli helicopter gunships also flew over the camps, but police could not confirm reports that they had fired on the shanty towns.

"It has for the first time established that our fight can be carried out on our own land. People no longer talk about the 'Arab problem'. Now they talk about the

"Palestinian problem." But Ein el-Hilwe has its own grim witnesses to the conflict in the West Bank and Gaza. In a concrete-walled office, bare of pictures or decoration, we find two young men explaining to a small group of Palestinians what is happening in the land they all call Palestine.

Mr Jamal Zakout and Mr Ahmed Jaber are from the occupied territories — the first from Gaza City, the second from Ramallah — and they are among the most recent Palestinians to be deported from their homes by Israel. They were dumped in Lebanon on August 1 after months of imprisonment which — if only a fraction of their tale were true — must have been a nightmare.

Justifying the policy of deportation, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister, has talked of adherence to Israeli law, of the involvement of the Israeli High Court in confirming the deportations.

But the story told by Mr Zakout and Mr Jaber is one of

pain and brutality. Mr Zakout describes days of beatings and threats from Israeli interrogators, of two broken ribs, of being hooded and starved; he speaks of his young wife, who, he says, suffered a miscarriage when she was herself imprisoned by Israeli security men.

He is unsmiling, balding at 32, evidently — as the Palestinian expression goes — an "activist". Mr Jaber was a social researcher at Birzeit university. He says he even applied to the Israeli High Court for a stay of deportation until he saw his own interrogator — whom he says had beaten him savagely — giving advice to court officials.

The Ein el-Hilwe Palestinians who sit around the two men listen to all this, imbibing their anger. There is something especially frightening about Mr Zakout, perhaps it is the way he refuses to be interrupted.

His message has not been lost on Ein el-Hilwe, to which he and Mr Jaber have deliberately been brought to tell of their experiences. Nor has communication with the occupied territories been cut, as the Israelis apparently believe. Phone calls are hooked up through Cyprus so that Palestinians in Ein el-Hilwe can speak directly to relatives in the West Bank.

But there is a dark suspicion that surfaces among many families here that if the PLO wins the right to statehood in the West Bank, it will be forced to conclude a treaty with the Israelis which will effectively exclude the Palestinians who live in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan from the new nation.

Mahmoud is a young teacher who lives with his wife and four children in an apartment at the northern end of the camp. "We all discuss a Palestinian state, my friends and I," he says. "Our problem is that our families all came from what is now Israel. They left in 1948 and did not come from what is now the West Bank and Gaza. Do you really think the Israelis would let us go and live in a West Bank state of Palestine even if it existed? Would the new government of Palestine let us go there?"

Mahmoud pauses. "We must have a government in exile and we must have a representative from our Palestinians in Lebanon to make sure that we can also share in the fruits of *intifada*. It is time for the PLO to take a historic political decision."

But even if the maps can be redrawn, can the anger be assuaged? "If we speak with the Israelis directly and treat with them, we must forget our feelings," Mr Zakout says. "The only important thing then is to protect the interests of the people and our new state." He smiles for the first time. "I mean this truly."

● JERUSALEM: The body of the leader of the West Bank village of Yatta was discovered yesterday (David Bernstein writes).

Saudi Hazzeah, aged 34, had been hacked to death during the night, apparently by up to two dozen villagers who believed him to be an Israeli collaborator.

Kim's monument to failed propaganda



Final touches being put to Pyongyang's 150,000-seat stadium, the world's largest — but the athletes of 161 Olympic nations will be gathering in Seoul.

**From Chris Pomey
Pyongyang**

The sign outside the world's largest sports stadium carries a strident, forlorn message: "Sacrifice yourself to fulfil the task set by the dear leader Kim Jong Il after his visit of 29-5-88."

Inside, 3,500 model workers called from work units all over North Korea labour to finish the 150,000-seat stadium on the outskirts of Pyongyang in time for its official opening on September 9, the fortieth anniversary of the foundation of the world's most reclusive and secretive nation.

Two years ago, North Korea announced it would organise an Eastern Bloc boycott of the Seoul Olympics if it was not allowed to co-host the XXIV Olympiad. Since then it has been working flat out to prepare 11 stadiums and its own Olympic village, channelling scarce resources of steel and concrete into the largest construction project undertaken in the North.

Yet however fast the model workers toil, the brand new sports palaces will remain empty and barely complete

next month, a monument to skewed planning, paranoia and propaganda.

The pseudo-Olympic sites are impressively modernist for a country glutted with third-rate monumental architecture. The main "Olympic village" complex lies a mile from the birthplace shrine of Mr Kim Il Sung, North Korea's leader for its entire 40-year history, in the eastern part of the capital.

The "Olympic Way" is a nine-lane highway, coyly named "Make the Country Glorious Street", stretching almost three-and-a-half miles, its centre lane reserved for the great leader and its banks studded with high-rise apartment blocks.

Nine gymnasiums for the minor Olympic sports, including boxing, weightlifting and handball, are grouped on an adjacent road overlooked by a hotel. The two largest stadiums dominate two islands on separate sites east and west of the city centre on the Taedong river.

On the ground there is the same mass mobilization as in the countryside. Work teams move earth and stones by three-man hovel or by hand,

women as well as men, militia and civilians.

They work a 10-hour day, six days a week, much of it in the baking 95°F heat of summer or the Siberian cold of winter. The pay is a flat-rate 60 won a month, about \$28 or £16.50 at the official exchange rate. Voluntary labour is sometimes required.

Posters count down the number of days to the September 9 deadline or remind Seoul swimmers.....31

workers of work targets, now a 200-day push for completion programme.

A propaganda band plays glib patriotic songs, temporarily drowning out the loudspeakers' crackling exhortations.

Exhortations from the "great leader", Mr Kim Il Sung, and his son and nominated successor, the "dear leader", Mr Kim Jong Il, hang from unfinished buildings as they do throughout the country.

Inside the world's largest stadium the model workers chisel holes for the 150,000 seats. The project manager,

Mr Park Ping-Bing, claims that all has been achieved by Korean expertise and civilian labour. Almost ritually he notes that the "dear leader" gave much "on the spot guidance" on the design.

Had he dreamed up the chrysanthemum shape of the roof that glitters like a huge metallic doughnut in the mid-day heat, I asked. Not exactly, admitted Mr Park, whose last job was to erect a 500-ft tower in praise of Mr Kim Il Sung's philosophy of Marxist self-reliance.

Was it a coincidence it looked like the Sydney Opera House? Mr Park had never seen the Sydney Opera House.

Was the second stadium, on Yanggak Island, modelled on the Seoul Stadium with its gentle curves and graceful low profile? Not at all, Mr Park assured me.

As the North has conceded the Olympic propaganda battle over the past two years, threatened an Eastern Bloc boycott that has failed to materialize and rejected International Olympic Committee proposals that it host five minor events, it has changed its tune at home without any

apparent loss of face. The official line now is that United States intervention stymied co-hosting and that the new facilities have been purposely built for the XIII Eastern Bloc Youth Games.

Yet with only 3,000 hotel rooms, less than 500 Western tourists a year, a telephone system that cannot connect local calls, and a pathological hatred of the US, Pyongyang is not ready to host the five events the IOC offered.

With the Soviet Union propping up North Korea's creaky economy with \$1.5 billion every year, according to one local estimate, the pseudo-Olympic sites appear as a huge bribe in exchange for North Korea's good behaviour next month, a consolation prize to compensate for the chagrin of watching defections of 161 countries compete at Seoul. Only Cuba and Ethiopia have quit the Games.

The Olympics did not rate a mention on the television news in Pyongyang last week and unless it decides to send a team at the last minute, North Korea may be the only nation not watching the XXIV Olympiad next month.

Sino-Japanese relations

Tokyo offers China £3.5 billion loan to aid development

Peking (Reuters) — Japan is prepared to make a record loan to China of around 800 billion yen (£3.5 billion). The offer was made yesterday by Mr Noboru Takeshita, the Japanese Prime Minister, when he arrived in Peking at the start of a six-day visit aimed at further improving relations between the two countries.

Speaking in the Great Hall of the People after a 21-gun salute in Tiananmen Square, Mr Li Peng, the Chinese Prime Minister, said Mr Takeshita had done great work in developing the friendship and would give impetus to their relationship.

Replying across the conference table, Mr Takeshita said he wanted to make this meeting with Mr Li "a new starting-point" in developing Sino-Japanese ties.

"I have been hoping to visit China as soon as possible since I became Prime Minister last year," he added.

Japanese officials said that Mr Takeshita would make a commitment to lead China around 800 billion yen from 1990 to 1995, a record amount which is almost double money lent in two tranches from 1979 to 1989. The loans will be used to improve China's ports, railways, roads, telecommunications, sewage systems and power supply.

Japan is China's largest lender and the second biggest trading partner after Hong Kong and Macao.

Mr Takeshita's visit to China, which will take him to Buddhist caves in the north-western desert and to Shanghai and Xian, follows a warming of Sino-Japanese ties in recent months.

Mr Takeshita is scheduled to meet Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's senior leader. Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Communist Party General Secretary, as well as Mr Li.

Diplomats said that the Mr Takeshita's visit, his first to China as Prime Minister, would focus on trade and bilateral issues but would also cover the situation on the Korean peninsula and security in Seoul for the forthcoming Olympic Games.

This year has seen considerable progress in two of the sorest points in Sino-Japanese relations — Japan's enormous trade surplus and its low level of investment in China.

According to Tokyo's figures, China turned a deficit into a trade surplus of \$500 million (£294 million) in the first half of 1988 while Japanese investment in that period totalled \$100 million, double the amount committed in the first half of 1987.

However, China says it still had a deficit amounting to \$940 million (£553 million) from January to June, almost half the deficit posted in the same 1987 period.

The two sides have different statistics partly because China does not include exports to Japan which pass through Hong Kong.

Diplomats said China made it clear that Mr Takeshita would not be allowed to meet Mr Hu Yaobang, an old friend of Japan who was forced to resign as party leader in January, 1987, in the wake of student demonstrations calling for more democracy and freedom.

The two sides will also sign an investment protection treaty which, after seven years of negotiations, is designed to lure more Japanese companies to China by giving them better access to raw materials and labour and easier remittance of profits home.

Sikhs halt train and take three hostages

Amritsar (AFP) — Sikh militants posing as railway officials held up a train in the north Indian state of Punjab yesterday and kidnapped three security guards, police said here.

One of the three guards freed himself and raised the alarm, sparking a huge police hunt in the area.

● DELHI: Thousands of communists halted trains across the Marxist-ruled Indian state of West Bengal yesterday to press demands for the resignation of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister.

Army in Burundi 'out of control'

From Andrew Buckoke, Kigali, Rwanda

Although the Burundi Government says the country is open to journalists, the northern province of Kirundo remains sealed off and the continuing flow of refugees into southern Rwanda indicates that the Army is still engaged in brutal attacks on the Hutu population there.

Diplomats and other observers speculate that the Government of Major Pierre Buruyoya, which claims peace has returned to the area, has lost control of the Army in the north.

Both the Government and the Army are almost exclusively drawn from the Tutsi minority, which accounts for 15 per cent of the population, against 85 per cent for the Hutu. But there are reports of an unofficial anti-Hutu campaign before the killings began around August 14.

The tension between the two tribes has never really subsided since the massacre of 100,000 Hutu by the Tutsi in 1972, although it removed nearly all the members of the self-proclaimed Tutsi leadership.

The fires of burning houses can be seen across the border with Rwanda at night, and the few villages that are close to the border appear completely deserted. Sporadic shooting can still be heard.

Nearly half the 100,000 people living in the worst affected region have already fled to Rwanda. More than 41,000 have registered as refugees, but relief workers estimate the total may be above 50,000. Nearly all report the killing of family members.

One old man said all his sons, their wives and children — 35 people — had been killed.

Though the Government reported 5,000 deaths at the end of last week, most observers believe this is a gross under-estimate. There are also increasingly frequent reports of atrocities, such as unborn babies being cut out of pregnant women and people being skewered on poles.

Many refugee babies in hospitals and camps in Rwanda have been slashed or stabbed, then left alive after their parents were killed.

Little in the way of international assistance for the refugees has yet arrived.

Food for the refugees has been paid for mainly by the Rwanda Government and the local offices of the Red Cross and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Most are without shelter, blankets or cooking utensils.

Marcos fears

Manila (AP) — Stock prices plunged in the Philippines and businessmen expressed fears for government stability after Mr Ferdinand Marcos, the exiled former President, formally requested permission to return to answer an ex-minister's accusations.

Single parents

Moscow (Reuters) — The Soviet Union, in its first official disclosure of data on illegitimate births, has reported that more than 500,000 children are born to single mothers each year despite high abortion rates.

Space debris

Colorado Springs (AP) — A propulsion unit from a Soviet rocket has re-entered the atmosphere and may have landed in the sea off southern Africa, US space authorities said.

Police killed

Colombo — Members of the Sri Lankan rebel group Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna shot dead two policemen in Kegalle and one in Galle.

Poison mail

Cape Town (Reuters) — Three people are being treated in a South African hospital for poisoning after receiving arsenic-laced chocolate in the post, police said.

Swedish author claims Wallenberg is in Soviet prison

**From Christopher Mossey
Stockholm**

Sweden's missing hero of The Holocaust, Raoul Wallenberg, is "in all probability" still alive at the age of 76 and being held under a false identity in a Soviet prison camp, a Swedish writer has claimed here.

Mr Kenneth Fant, an author who has spent six years researching a book on Wallenberg's life, said he was seen alive on December 22, 1986, when he was treated for frostbite in the hospital of the Blagoveshchensk camp in eastern Siberia.

He said his information came from Soviet dissidents who had been granted exit visas.

Mr Fant went to the Soviet Embassy in Stockholm where he handed over an open letter to Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader.

In this, he said that Mr Gorbachev had been tricked by the officials responsible for Wallenberg's continued imprisonment who had removed the Swede's name from Soviet prison records and given him a new identity.

This was why enquiries launched by Mr Gorbachev at the request of the Swedish Government had proved fruitless.

Mr Fant called upon Mr Gorbachev to allow Mrs Ludmila Butenko, chief of the special psychiatric hospital at Blagoveshchensk to be allowed to tell all she knew of Wallenberg's treatment there in 1978. He also asked the

UN praises restraint of Cypriot leaders

**From Andrew McEwen
Geneva**

Leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities in Cyprus completed their Geneva encounter yesterday, leaving a positive impression among officials of the United Nations.

Both President Vassiliou of Cyprus and Mr Rauf Denktas, President of the self-proclaimed Turkish republic of northern Cyprus, won praise for their restraint in avoiding harmful remarks.

After 14 years of false starts,

no-one was predicting a breakthrough when substantive talks began on September 15, but neither side raised preconditions.

Both leaders were apparently satisfied with their two meetings in the presence of Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General.

The two men made it clear that they had been determined to get on with each other. "I found him a very intelligent and capable interlocutor," Mr Vassiliou said, 57, said of Mr Denktas. "One of the biggest achievements is that we have

a feeling that we can communicate."

In London, Lord Bethell, chairman of the Friends of Cyprus, an all-party lobby group said: "It is excellent that the two men have met. Mr Denktas has up to now been the reluctant partner, but he seems to have been persuaded that a settlement would benefit everyone."

Mr Vassiliou's expansive personality and energetic style was seen in Geneva as a refreshing change. The Greek Cypriots seemed to be becoming less inward-looking, and

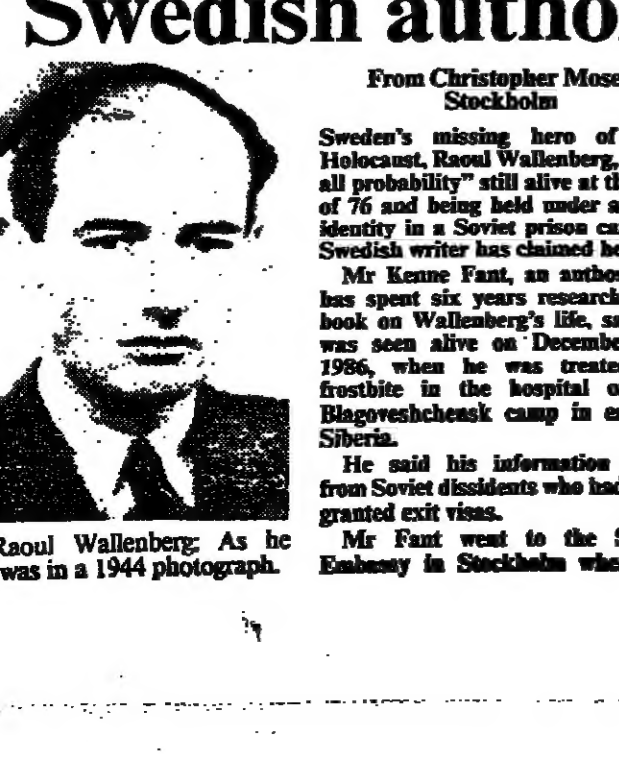
Mr Vassiliou's background as a wealthy businessman with considerable foreign experience probably helped. He has been President for six months.

Seven of the eight morning dailies in the southern half of Cyprus reported favourably or in neutral terms on the Geneva meetings. Only *Free Press*, which supports the Democratic Party of Mr Vassiliou's predecessor, Mr Spyros Kyprianou, took a negative line. "Nothing of substance in Geneva" was its headline.

But in an interview with

The Times, Mr Kyprianou showed reservations rather than objections to the Geneva process. "A climate of euphoria has been created, I would advise against that because we have not yet touched on the substance of the problem," he said.

● ATHENS: Mr Vassiliou called off a visit to Athens to brief the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreu, on the Geneva talks because the Greek leader, aged 69, flew to London yesterday for medical advice on a narrowing heart artery.



Raoul Wallenberg. As he was in a 1944 photograph.

psychiatric hospital in 1980 where he heard inmates speak of a Swede who was being held there.

Mr Cronid Lubarsky, a friend of Dr Andrei Sakharov, had also referred to "the old Swede" at Blagoveshchensk.

As a diplomat in Nazi-occupied Budapest during the Second World War, Wallenberg saved an estimated 100,000 Hungarian Jews from Adolf Eichmann's extermination programme by granting them Swedish safe-conduct passes.

When the Red Army "liberated" the city in 1945 he was arrested on suspicion of being an American spy and was taken to Moscow where officials claim that he died two years later. There have been persistent reports that he is still alive.

treatment in which Wallenberg looks back on his life.

Mr Fant said his principal informant now lived in the United States. This man knew an internecine at Blagoveshchensk who had been present when Wallenberg was treated at the camp hospital.

Mr Fant said he could reveal neither the name of this informant nor that of the man who had actually seen Wallenberg.

"His 89-year-old father is still in the Soviet Union," he said.

However, he said there had been several other reports that Wallenberg was being held in Blagoveshchensk.

Mr Viktor Davidov, a Soviet dissident granted an exit visa in 1983, was held in the camp's

the city in 1945 he was arrested on suspicion of being an American spy and was taken to Moscow where officials claim that he died two years later. There have been persistent reports that he is still alive.

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Animal house or fun palace?

In Chessington Zoo, animals now take second place to rides and slides. As zoos begin to reassess their role, Andrew Lycett asks if 'interactive' parks are the shape of things to come

An hour into their day at the zoo, and the Bury family had still not seen a single animal. They had spent 15 minutes taking a bamboo boat along a simulated jungle river, hurtling into the mouth of a mock dragon and down a water slide between the faces of two mock Buddhas. The other 45 minutes they had spent queuing for the ride. Steve Bury, his wife, Shirley, and their two sons, were not even sure they would bother with the polar bears, the lions, the bird garden, and the monkey walk at the Chessington World of Adventures. "If we want a zoo, we go to Whipsnade," Steve said.

At Chessington, the family preferred to spend their time on rides like the Dragon River (presented by the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board and Singapore Airlines) or the Runaway Mine Train, which takes a "fast and furious" journey through the deserted gold mines of Calamity Canyon (courtesy of Coca-Cola and Schweppes).

Most people still remember the World of Adventures as Chessington Zoo. It changed its name in 1986 when it was taken over by the Tussauds group, owners of the waxwork exhibition. The zoo remains a member of the Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain, which includes 59 of the country's 257 licensed zoos, but is widely regarded as a Disneyland with animals.

The hard sell begins in the car-park, where an Automobile Association patrolwoman is trying to recruit members. It continues inside the entrance gate, where a market research analyst wants details of your age group, occupation and which television stations you watch. Some zoo professionals say animals suffer in this environment. "They're kept in barely acceptable habitats," says William Travers, director of Zoo Check, a pressure group which monitors zoo activities.

Britain suffers from a surfeit of

zoos. Many of them are underfunded private or municipal facilities which in the early 1980s experienced a decline in the number of visitors and financial losses as a result of competition from other forms of entertainment. Chessington, which responded by becoming part of the broader leisure industry, has never been forgiven by Travers.

Travers, son of actress Virginia McKenna and her husband, Bill Travers, does not hide his dislike of most zoos. He thinks their claim to help conserve species threatened in the wild is frequently dubious, but he does admit there are a handful of special cases, such as the seals which are currently threatened by a virus which has already killed 10,000 seals off Scandinavia. He favours sanctuaries in animals' countries of origin, like the 5,000 acre centre "full of normal wildlife" that Zoo Check runs in Tsavo, Kenya.

If we have to have zoos, he argues, they should be more natural. "The public are simply not excited by animals in cages any longer. They know too much about them. The Attenboroughs and Bellamys have brought the natural world into our living rooms."

The creation of vast natural habitats for zoo animals is big business in the United States. Jones & Jones, a Seattle firm specializing in zoo design and construction, cut its teeth on the gorilla exhibition in Woodland Park in its native city 10 years ago. Visitors enter through dense vegetation. They proceed to a wooden hut with a glass wall which looks out on to a verdant clearing in the jungle where half a dozen gorillas sit enjoying the time of the day. Senior partner Johnpaul Jones says: "We're moving away from exhibits where all the monkeys are organized together to presenting them in the way you would find them in nature. The visitor gets a mixture of animals and environment,



Getting to know you: Chris Goldie and his six-year-old daughter, Sarah, meet a blue-tongued skink during Reptile Week at London Zoo

and hopefully a better understanding of how our world works."

Audubon Zoo, in New Orleans, includes a live Louisiana swamp, complete with alligators, raccoons, otters and turtles. Visitors encounter them from a wooden walkway inches above the swamp. In the US they call this "landscape immersion". Anthropomorphism is out, as is the old practice of having just two examples of one species. Now you need up to 30 to get the right "social interaction".

The US can afford to blend reality with Cecil B. de Mille. The economics of, and public commitment to, zoos are on a different scale there. Last year the 140 members of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums attracted 110 million visitors and turned over \$500 million (£294 million). When Audubon Zoo needed funds for improvements earlier this year,

the issue took its place on New Orleans election ballot forms. The city voted, by 71 to 29 per cent, to raise \$90 million in taxes over the next 30 years. More than \$300 million was spent on building the four big new zoos that opened in the US this year.

British zoos generally do not have the money to recreate tropical rain forests. They must compromise, adopting a half-way position between commercialism and "landscape immersion". London Zoo has covered its deficit with a government grant of £2 million a year for the past three years. In November it will receive a further £10 million as a one-off payment to put its house in order. Quite how the money will be spent is not yet known. It may simply be spent on rehabilitating run-down enclosures.

After that, the Department of Environment has made clear that the zoo must pay its own way. With this in mind, it has set up a new subsidiary, Zoo Operations Limited, headed by Andy Grant, American head of the Grant Leisure Group. Grant, son of a former head of Universal Studios B-movies, is credited with revamping San Diego Zoo in the early 1980s. He told an interviewer earlier this month: "Entertainment is in my blood."

London Zoo has a policy of giving visitors direct contact with its animals. This week, as part of Reptile Week in National Zoo Month, David Ball, assistant curator of reptiles, has been introducing venomous snakes to lunchtime audiences of up to 300 people, mainly children. "We want people to get close to an elephant, to smell a camel," says spokesman Julie Fitzherbert.

Brockholes. "We go for subtle change, rather than Chessington type change."

Most British zoos tend to emphasize their conservationist and educational role. The Monkey Sanctuary in Cornwall, for example, specializes in woolly monkeys from the Amazon rain forest. Keeper Kathy Day says: "We have 16 animals, and we have shows four to six times a day where visitors can meet them and touch them. We emphasize that they are natural animals, not pets." Other zoos in this genre include Kilverstone in Norfolk, devoted to South American animals, the Otter Trust in Suffolk, which draws plaudits from Travers for its policy of releasing animals back into the wild, the Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge in Gloucestershire, and Paignton in Devon.

But Travers says: "They're all

fairly rudimentary. They're 20 years behind zoos in the United States. Many of them don't perhaps do as much as the Natural History Museum."

Stephan Ormrod, chief wildlife officer of the RSPCA, agrees. "The zoos have got to be more of an experience." Bob Golding, possibly Britain's only specialist zoo designer, welcomes the museum analogy. He sees our zoos becoming museum-like "with lots of hands-on equipment". Drawing on experience of a complex at Holland's Emmen Zoo known as Biochron, which tells the story of evolution, Golding is currently planning a £1 million Geochron for Dudley Zoo. This exhibition, to be completed in 1990, will use plants, birds, and small mammals, as well as the latest audio-visual techniques to tell the story of life on earth.

Customers, primed by television documentaries, want to be better informed at zoos, Golding says. "But the keeping of large mammals is coming increasingly under scrutiny. Therefore he forecasts a trend to more informative use of small animals. 'The most popular exhibition at Cincinnati zoo is its World of Insects,' he notes.

Small animals are the feature of the Electronic Zoo devised by Christopher Parsons, formerly head of the BBC's Natural History Unit. "As time goes on a lot of the larger animals will disappear from zoos," he says. "But 95 per cent of living creatures are less than three inches in length." Drawing on his television background, he wants to follow an insect underground with a miniature video camera, and broadcast pictures of it cutting up a leaf on an adjacent screen, using a fibre optic cable. He talks of visitors sitting in an African hut, looking out of three "windows", which are actually high-definition video screens recreating (with the help of six track digital sound) what goes on at a watering hole. The first Electronic Zoo is scheduled to be completed in Bradford in 1991-2 at the not inconsiderable cost of £8 million. Parsons sees the Electronic Zoo as "a different type of wildlife attraction, with some of the elements of a zoo, a museum and Disneyland". In Britain, until someone complains of cruelty to miniature animals in confined spaces, the three concepts are clearly coming together.

SATURDAY

Portfolio — PLUS NEW — Accumulator At least £8,000 to be won

Three score and ten

This week Leonard Bernstein, concert pianist and conductor, composer of symphony and Broadway glitz, poet and writer, celebrated his 70th birthday at the Tanglewood festival. He told *The Times* how he learns as he teaches

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Days of wine and poses

Today *The Times* publishes the booking form and an extra token for the bargain day trips it is offering in conjunction with P & O European Ferries to Belgium and France. The offer, a big success when last made in 1986, will run from Sunday, September 18 until Sunday, December 18. This is the first time that such an offer has been available in the early autumn, when good weather should provide ideal conditions for sightseeing and photography, and an opportunity to stock up with wine. Later trips will afford an excellent opportunity to buy up French and Belgian delicacies for Christmas.

The price for two people travelling with a car will be just the same as it was two years ago. The offer is available on all seven of P & O's Channel crossing routes — from Dover to Calais, Boulogne, Zeebrugge or Ostend; from Felixstowe to Zeebrugge; and from Portsmouth to Le Havre or Cherbourg. To qualify, readers have to

collect three tokens and send them in with the booking form printed below. Tokens appeared in *The Times* on Tuesday, Wednesday and yesterday, and an extra one is included today. Applications must be made by post on the booking form, enclosing three tokens per booking (not per person) and the fare payment. Savings under the terms of the offer are substantial. For instance, a group of four

adults sailing from Dover to Calais will save more than £60 on the round trip. Fares on all routes will be the same — £5 per passenger, children under the age of four free, and £10 per vehicle. Minibuses may be carried subject to a maximum of nine passengers. The maximum length for any vehicle is 5.5 metres. A supplement of £10 per vehicle must be paid in advance if applicants wish to

travel on a Saturday. The offer is made subject to availability, and demand is expected to be very heavy. Readers will be asked to nominate three alternative dates on which they would like to travel. Only one of those dates can be a Saturday. With crossings on the short sea routes between Dover and Calais and Boulogne readers will not be given a choice of destination but will only be able to choose the time band within which they wish to travel. They will then be taken to Calais or Boulogne as accommodation permits. Both outward and inward journeys will, though, be made through the same port.

If requested sailings or dates are not available money will be refunded, but the offer will enable many thousands of readers to enjoy outings to France at unbeatable rates, and so long as three coupons and the appropriate payment form there is no rule against readers making multiple applications.



This voucher may be used as one of three required to apply for *The Times* special offer. It is valid only for P&O European Ferries DAY RETURN trips for September 18 to December 18, 1988 inclusive. THREE VOUCHERS are required PER BOOKING REQUEST. The offer is made SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. Send completed booking request form, three vouchers and remittance to: *The Times* Offer, The Travel Market Ltd, PO Box 108, Dover, Kent, CT16 1XL. Please also enclose an SAE of at least 8in x 6in.

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To be completed by party leader (BLOCK CAPS)

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(Mr/Mrs/Miss)
ADDRESS.....

POSTCODE.....TEL NO DAY:.....NIGHT:.....

CHOICE OF DEPARTURE DATES.....

1.....2.....(one Saturday only)

No of children under 4.....(at no charge)

No of passengers @ £5 each.....Total £.....

No of cars up to 5.5m @ £10 each.....Total £.....

CAR REG NUMBER.....TOTAL ENCLOSURE £.....

If you wish to travel on a Saturday and are taking your car, please enclose an additional cheque for £10 to cover the applicable supplement. If we are not able to offer a Saturday this cheque will be returned to you.

Please find enclosed £..... representing full payment for my day trip. (Cheques or crossed postal orders should be made payable to The Travel Market Ltd. Please put your name and address clearly on the back of cheques). I have read the above terms of the offer and agree to be bound by them.

Signed.....Date.....

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OUTWARD (from Dover to) INWARD (to Dover from)

☐ Ostend 0100 ☐ Ostend 1345

☐ Ostend 0300 (not Sun) ☐ Zeebrugge 1600 (not Sat)

☐ Zeebrugge 0530 ☐ Ostend 1745

☐ Zeebrugge 0830 (not Sat) ☐ Zeebrugge 1900

☐ Ostend 1000 ☐ Ostend 2245 (not Sat)

☐ Zeebrugge 1130 (*Sails one hour earlier Sept 25 to Oct 22)

FELIXSTOWE - ZEEBRUGGE (Night sailings 8 hours, day 5 1/2 hours)

Tick sailing combination required

☐ Depart at 2300 to ZEEBRUGGE - Return at 1200 from Zeebrugge to Felixstowe

☐ Depart at 1100 to ZEEBRUGGE - Return at 2359 from Zeebrugge to Felixstowe

PORTSMOUTH - LE HAVRE (crossing time approx 6 hours)

Tick sailing combination required

☐ PORTSMOUTH - Le Havre at 0830 - Return at 2330 LE HAVRE - Portsmouth

☐ PORTSMOUTH - Le Havre at 2330 - Return at 1700 LE HAVRE - Portsmouth

(*Sails one hour earlier Sept 25 to Oct 22)

PORTSMOUTH - CHERBOURG (crossing time 6 hours)

☐ PORTSMOUTH - Cherbourg at 0800 - Return at 1800 CHERBOURG - Portsmouth

(*Sails one hour earlier Sept 25 to Oct 22 and departs at 1500 on all Sundays except Sept 25, when departure is at 1700).

SCIENCE REPORT

World on fire

The apocalyptic image of the planet Earth engulfed in one vast, global fire, raging across continents and turning the world's forests into a great cloud of black smoke, may seem more at home in the Book of Revelations than in a scientific treatise.

But a team of US geologists think they have convincing evidence that this catastrophe really occurred some 65 million years ago, as the Cretaceous geological period gave way to the Tertiary. Their findings are presented in the latest issue of *Nature*.

The leader of the team, Edward Anders, a chemist at the University of Chicago, briefly describes the event as a "dramatic and dangerous period for life on Earth". He believes that the global fire was the cause of the extinction of the dinosaurs, which vanished at the end of the Cretaceous period along with many other plants and animals.

Like other "catastrophic" geologists, Anders and his co-workers think that the Earth was struck by a giant meteorite at that time. Evidence for that view comes from the distribution of the element iridium. At sites around the world geologists have found large amounts of iridium in clays laid down just at the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary. Because iridium is normally rare in the Earth's crust, but abundant in meteorites, the implication is that a massive meteorite must have struck the Earth, showering it with debris.

Anders and his co-workers differ from many of their colleagues in their view of what happened after the meteorite struck. A favourite scenario has been that the impact threw up a dust cloud which shrouded the Earth, cutting down the amount of sunlight reaching the ground. In the resulting cold and dark the dinosaurs froze or starved to death. Anders's view suggests a different and even more unpleasant ending for the dinosaurs. He proposes that as the massive meteorite passed through the atmosphere it turned into a fireball, generating scorching heat and winds

strong enough to flatten forests. Huge fires began immediately, fuelled by molten rock thrown up as the meteorite struck the ground.

The evidence for the global fire is simple. In with the layer of iridium, Anders and his colleagues have discovered a very thin layer of soot. That soot is best seen in a unique seam of rock, just a few millimetres thick, discovered in a gorge on the South Island of New Zealand. The rock was laid down 65 million years ago when Australia, New Zealand and Antarctica were still connected in one landmass and, by chance, has remained almost undisturbed.

The rock layer is massively enriched in iridium. With the aid of Rodney Brooks, a chemist from New Zealand's Massey University, the US team found that the bottom of the iridium layer also contained thousands of times more soot than the rocks beneath.

Anders and his colleagues then examined Cretaceous-Tertiary rocks elsewhere in the world and found just the same kind of soot layer. Even more striking, they found that whatever part of the world the soot came from, it always had precisely the same chemical composition. That means that all the soot came from one giant fire.

Even though the evidence for a massive fire thus looks strong, some scientists will argue that the fire might have happened long after the meteorite struck. If a dust cloud blocked out sunlight, they say, many forests would have died and fires may have begun years later, triggered by lightning strikes.

Anders says, however, that the position of the soot in the iridium layer shows the global fire must have raged even before the dust from the meteorite impact had had time to settle. "Though it happened long ago, there are a few places where a record of that time was preserved," he says. "We can see for the first time how the environment changed then, presumably on a month-by-month basis."

Alun Anderson

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RICHARD LEADBETTER

NEXT WEEK don't

ce?

Her words on his lips

Christopher Thomas meets the woman who puts words in the mouth of the would-be President

President Reagan will for ever be credited with the beautiful, moving sentiments he handed the nation when the shuttle Challenger exploded, but Peggy Noonan wrote them. And it was Noonan who gave the words to Vice-President George Bush that brought him bursting out of the shadows, words that defined him more clearly than a lifetime of grey, rapid oratory that had left him a stranger to the nation he wants to serve as President.

She made him real. Back in the winter, when Bush was battling in New Hampshire, Noonan, a freelance speechwriter, was summoned to save him, to humanize him. She gave him the line: "As Abraham Lincoln said, 'Here I stand, with you all'." Actually it wasn't Lincoln's line at all (it was Cromwell's) but no matter — it touched a chord in a part of the country where integrity counts. With Noonan's words on his lips, Bush was suddenly not apologiz-

ing for himself any more. When he went to the Republican National Convention in New Orleans last week, he took her along and she penned the most important speech of his political life.

Noonan, aged 37, is fiercely private, hiding behind the sometimes graceful, sometimes poignant, sometimes slashing words that she pens for the great and the mighty who send them spinning into history. She is a right-wing ideologue, believing passionately in the highly partisan prose she delivered regularly to President Reagan before she quit as a White House speechwriter two years ago.

She now taps out her words in her house in the Virginia suburbs, alongside the banks of the Potomac River. "I do my own cooking, no secretary. It's a very modest operation. Just me and my word processor," she said. The facsimile machine that is her contact with clients and on which she sends her words of wisdom sits above her son's playpen.



Speaking out: Peggy Noonan says "words have this power to make dance the duldest beanbag of a heart"

Her mission with the Bush speech was to craft something modest that would complement this gentle, self-effacing man while still freeing him from the bonds of the loyal, steadfast Number Two. She gave him the phrases that would define who and what he was. "I may not be the most eloquent," he announced, with 40 million Americans watching. "I may sometimes be a little awkward. But there's nothing self-conscious in my love of country. I am a quiet man, but I hear the quiet people others don't — the ones who raise the family, pay the taxes, meet the mortgage. I hear them and I am moved, and their concerns are mine."

When the Challenger blew up in January 1986, she was telephoned by Pat Buchanan, the White House Chief of Communications. "I called her up about 1.15pm," he recalled. "By 3 she had produced just about every word Reagan said about the Challenger." One of the more memorable lines came from the sonnet "High Flight" to describe the astronauts who had "slipped the surly bonds of Earth to touch the face of God". And she gave Reagan the stirring line that "the Challenger crew was pulling us into the future, and we will continue to follow them".

Noonan majored in English literature at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, New Jer-

sey. Her craft is the pithy phrase, the dozen words that history will be tempted to remember.

"Government is words," she said recently after being employed as Bush's private wordsmith. "Thoughts are reduced to paper for speeches which become policy. Poetry has everything to do with speeches — cadence, rhythm, imagery, sweep, a knowledge that words are magic, that words, like children, have this power to make dance the duldest beanbag of a heart."

She used to work as a writer for CBS News. She wrote scripts for Dan Rather, the CBS television anchorman ("autumn has dropped like a fruit") until she was



George Bush: saying the words

'I am a quiet man but I hear the quiet people... I hear them and I am moved, and their concerns are mine'

poached by the White House, joining a team of five other writers. Since joining Bush, she has produced winning lines like "we have earned our confidence, we have a right to our confidence, and we have much to do".

Jimmy Carter learned the punishing lesson that pessimism is death to an American politician; the country demands optimism, and Noonan has steered the Vice-President down that road.

On her remarkable journey from being a secretary in Newark, New Jersey, to one of the capital's pre-eminent political poets, she has acquired a dashing husband with an eye-patch — Richard Rahn, an economist — and her

son, Will. She taps out her prose in the living room and sends it over the facsimile machine, so the words can be weaved into Bush's speeches in San Diego, Houston, New York and Seattle.

The speechwriters' cardinal code is that they supply only language — the content and strategy are the politicians'. She likes Bush, personally and politically. "Americans get their candidates through TV and TV does not add to Bush, it takes from him," she observed. "He moves, for instance, like an ageing athlete — rangy and fluid. But on TV his movements are choppy, without ease."

She waxes lyrical about President Reagan, whom she obviously adores. Noonan must be the only person ever to have sent him a resignation note with X's splashed affectionately across the bottom. She tried to inject a joke at the beginning of his speeches, because "as soon as he gets a laugh he can relax". Noonan is credited with Reagan's address at Pointe du Hoc in Normandy on the 40th anniversary of D-Day, and the speech he delivered in June 1985 at the dedication of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library. That speech brought Senator Edward Kennedy to her door in thanks; he was moved. Reagan, using her words, evoked President Kennedy as "a patriot who summoned patriotism from the heart of a sad country". She said the phrase came easily to her because although she is a conservative, she is "an Irish Catholic with a liberal Democratic background".

She was widely regarded as the brightest of the White House speechwriters, even though some thought she was far too ideological. It was she who persuaded Bush, early in the presidential campaign, to lay aggressively into Senator Bob Dole. Bush asked for some phrases with which to beat his then-rival, and she came back with "creature of Congress".

Somebody remarked that after she left the White House, President Reagan ceased to sing. With her help, Bush has certainly found his voice, warts and all.

Enlisting for a free moral ride

All this week Senator Dan Quayle struggled for his political life as he tried to explain to Americans why he was not slashing his way through bamboo forests during the Vietnam War.

In Betterside, I listened to the children of some friends who were decidedly unsympathetic to him. "If he thought the war was wrong," said one 16-year-old boy, "he should have been a conscientious objector like David Bruce or he should have been drafted like everyone else." There were murmurs of agreement from the other three teenagers. I was intrigued with this. "Are any of you conscientious objectors?" I asked. "It would depend on the war," said the boy. "But I wouldn't have gone to the Falklands or Vietnam."

Well, bully for him, as Americans used to say. But then the British haven't had conscription for more than 25 years. Still, the exchange pointed to an issue that seems to be heating up. In South Africa, 143 young white men opposed to apartheid are attempting to broaden the grounds for conscientious objection to include political and moral beliefs.

In West Berlin last week, the German high court recognized work in Greenpeace as an alternative to conscription even as figures were released showing that the number of Germans opting out of military service increased by nearly 17 per cent during the first six months of 1988. These matters, it seems to me, speak to a contemporary muddle both on the meaning of the phrase "conscientious objector" and the highly emotive issue of serving one's country.

Until recently, serving one's country in times of need was pretty much taken for granted even by conscientious objectors. A conscientious objector, as I understand it, is essentially a pacifist who won't bear arms against anyone. It is not a question of objecting to this or that enemy. He will drive an ambulance, or nurse the wounded, but will not bear arms.

This total pacifism is most usually predicated on a set of religious beliefs. Someone who says I will not kill for my country may well be a conscientious objector. Someone who says I will not die for my country is simply a coward. A person who says I will fight for my country only if I agree with its political aims or system is a political dissident.

I have never met a mature pacifist but I am sure they exist. Such a person would fully understand that the consequence of their behaviour may be that evil will triumph and a number of people in the world will be conquered, ex-



BARBARA AMIEL

ploited or enslaved. They believe that fighting evil is as great a wrong as committing it. It happens to be a position with which I do not agree but it is absolutely consistent and as such one has some respect for it.

What I have both respect for and agreement with is the position of the South African political dissident, Mr David Bruce. Mr Bruce is not a pacifist. He simply is a young man who has a moral objection to apartheid and will not fight in the South African Defence Force because he believes it is "upholding and defending a racist system".

When you think your country has a fundamentally evil

'I have never met a mature pacifist but I am sure they exist'

system of government then your proper place is in that system's prisons. As George Faludy wrote in his autobiography *My Happy Days in Hell*, "When the green-painted door of cell No. 48 fell to behind me, I drew a deep breath of relief." What he meant was that in Stalin's Hungary, the cells of the AVO were the only place for a decent man to be. This is, of course, martyrdom, and not many people have Faludy's gumption to follow it through. But the behaviour of the Bruce family seemed entirely consistent with this stand.

"We are proud of him," said David Bruce's mother, "although we are terribly appalled at the severity of the consequences."

Consequences is what morality is about of course. What I am less sure about is the stance of the 143 other South African whites who have declared that they will not join the SADF as well.

They have refused to join the army but are trying to enlarge the category of conscientious objection to include political and philosophical beliefs so that they can do community service. They want to stand on moral grounds, resist the government, and not take the consequences. A free moral ride, so to speak.

Conscientious objection can only flourish in societies that feel relatively unthreatened, as most Western nations do today. An aboriginal tribe faced with extermination, for example, is unlikely to have had many conscientious objectors.

I suppose we all feel safer because warfare has now become both specialized and civilized. Modern enemies are very large nations facing one another and there is rarely the same sense of imminent danger. The consequences of defeat are perceived as not much more than symbolic.

This sense of security must be the reason why many European countries allow "community service" to substitute for training in the armed forces. Still, the idea that cleaning up parks is equal to learning how to defend one's country bewilders me. It seems based on a confused egalitarianism in which the only thing that matters to the government is that all citizens should be treated equally and have their lives disrupted for a year or two. It reduces the powerful notion that everyone should defend their country to the idea that everyone should be community-spirited.

It makes no sense, of course: if one morally objects to supporting one's country, it is no use taking refuge in the vague phrase "community service". All that the notion of community service does is to encourage cheap or sham moral stances.

Where this muddle leads can be seen in last week's Berlin court decision which ruled that certain jobs in Greenpeace may be legitimate alternatives to military service. Greenpeace, of course, is far from being an organization of pacifists or cowards. Its members will risk life and limb to blockade fishing boats and navies.

But once the government accepts the idea that the important impulse behind conscription is the notion that private citizens should be forced to serve some other cause than their own private lives, then any group from Greenpeace to CND can become a legitimate alternative to military service.

Which should make Senator Quayle's action in taking a legitimate alternative to active duty more than just a smart move and every bit as moral as today's discount conscientious objectors.

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NEXT WEEK: The Good Nanny Guide — don't leave her at home without it...

Ann Anderson

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Verbosity and chips

Purgatory may well turn out to be, not a suburban commuter train loaded to the gunwhales with aftershave and lawn-mower-banter, but a "hands-off" television documentary, whose inarticulate subjects evince both verbosity and chippliness.

Channel 4's *True Stories: Scenes From The Farm* was a model of the form. In the course of its 90 minutes, it managed the Kafkaesque trick of implying that the viewer had been sentenced, for unspecified offences, to a lengthy stretch in what Americans grimly term a correctional facility.

The physical surroundings of Tottenham's Broadwater Farm estate (so pastoral a name, so concrete a jumble), seem calculated to inspire the abandonment of hope, and why its architects are not themselves obliged to languish there *sine die* is a moral conundrum. Those who do inhabit the wretched place, and who agreed to take part in this programme, did so perhaps out of boredom.

The tone was set early on, when the unseen interviewer (female, white, middle-class) was challenged by a languid and reasonable Rastafarian: "What's your purpose in being here? If the riot had taken place you wouldn't know it existed." This sounded like fair comment, and altogether more courteously expressed than later threats, by others, to break the camera.

Despite the shapeless monotony of the fare — chiefly records of well-meaning compensatory work projects and high-decibel disagreements — one episode lingers in the memory. The six-year-old son of an unemployed member of the ethnic majority asked his one-parent family what colour the palms of his hands would be when he grew to be white. The boy would have none of his father's insistence that they were both black and always would be: the latter was brown, he accurately observed, while his cousin (not shown) was orange.

It was hard to know which was more disturbing: the boy's ingrained belief that the future would look rosier if it were white, or the man's private but equally intransigent version of apartheid. His fervent prayer for Jah to come down to earth and destroy all sinners did not sound likely of success.

Martin Cropper

Stalin gets sole blame for the "purges" of the 1930s, and after, in a new Russian best-seller. Jessica Douglas-Home, in Moscow, asks author Anatoli Rybakov whether his book conforms to the Soviet practice of rewriting history

History as half-truth

A surprising literary event has just taken place in the Soviet Union. A novel about Stalin, *Children of the Arbat*, having first appeared in the magazine *Druzhba Narodov* (Friendship of the Peoples), was published in an edition of two million copies, which were then so quickly snapped up that none remains available. My attempt to obtain a copy earlier this month in the largest bookshop in Moscow was greeted with ridicule. A reprint of a further million copies is planned for the autumn.

The 77-year-old author of this Soviet best-seller is married and has a comfortable apartment in Moscow, but he spends most of his time at his dacha in the forested hills, half an hour's drive away. It is a "village" for writers created in 1934 by Gorky, whom Stalin had made responsible for the "nationalization" of Soviet culture. It was there I met Anatoli Rybakov.

Children of the Arbat focuses on a small élite of young men and women growing up in the Arbat quarter of Moscow in 1934, with the "real" Stalin stalking them — and us — through the narrative. Stalin is shown as a ruthless man, hungry for power, but not exceptionally so, rather the stereotypical leader of Russian history. "All great rulers have been harsh," he muses. "The great ruler is the one that can inspire love and fear."

Although the book is evocative of the place and period in which it is set, the portraits of Stalin and other leading characters are one-dimensional. Plot, characterization, dialogue and style are all in the mould of an airport blockbuster.

In a way this is deliberate, for it gives Rybakov's readers much-needed balm: while deluding themselves that they are facing up to reality, they can travel with relief into realms of fantasy where the reality would be too terrible to bear. And of course they will experience a surge of gratitude to Gorbachev and to the Soviet State for this unexpected permission to see the truth — and see, too, that it was bearable.

Why had Rybakov chosen 1934 as the year in which to set the action of his present novel? "That was the beginning of all the tragedies. They first broke out in 1934. The 17th Party Congress

officially established the bad period." Perhaps the "tragedies" did start in 1934 for those close to Stalin and perhaps also for Rybakov himself, but had not a large number of Russian people, tens of millions of farmers and small holders, already been deliberately starved as "kulaks"? There is no shortage of such telescoping of history in the book.

Perhaps it is hard for the Russian people to cope with the never-ending revelations about the Stalin era. Stalin has been dead for 35 years, after all, and yet the machinery of totalitarianism which he perfected is still in place: dictators die only to be replaced. Even those who "believe in communism" would like to see the living accomplices of Stalin brought to justice.

Rybakov did not agree. "We must accept that Stalin is to blame. It would be wrong to blame the individuals who surrounded him because that would exculpate him. He alone is guilty." Then, suddenly, he added with great intensity: "And the Russian people — yes, the Russian people. After all, they let him get away with everything, everything — they voted him in. If you take away the responsibility from the people who allowed him to come to power, approved of everything, a new dictator will appear. The people are responsible for the fate of their country."

I reminded Rybakov of the resolutions that Lenin had passed in 1921, at the 10th Party Congress, forbidding internal criticism, and offered the suggestion that this circumstance, among others, somewhat reduced the responsibility of the Russian people for Stalin's behaviour. As indeed it had for Lenin's — after all, the only time the Russian people had been allowed to vote they had voted him out.

He, Rybakov, was of the generation who fought for Socialism, Social Justice, Equality, Internationalism. He leaned earnestly over his desk, stabbing the air with his finger to emphasize each of the many areas in which he subscribed to Soviet policy, and vocabulary, of those early years. Yes, Rybakov stands by Lenin. "The difference between Lenin and Stalin is that Lenin would always learn from his mistakes, he could listen to criticism. He never deposed his fellow

communists; he did not kill them; he just insisted that they work hard, and stop talking."

Was it because he was only 12 at the time that Rybakov seemed ignorant of the trials Lenin had organized, in 1922, of those who had voiced criticism no louder than Rybakov's? Could he really be unaware that it was Lenin who founded the concentration camps, instigated the method of arresting innocent people to whip up terror against entire social groups and classes, and abolished the rule of law? It was Lenin who established the Cheka and gave it unlimited power to operate all over Russia against "enemies of the people". Perhaps, then, it had been essential for the people to agree with Lenin to stay alive?

"Ah, but Lenin did admit his mistakes," he replied. Rybakov feels that it was Lenin's New Economic Policy (NEP) which gave his rule legitimacy. By "admitting his mistakes" Lenin made an important contribution to the art of ruling the Soviet Union: reversal of policy by the leader eliminates the error at once, as though it had never existed, and the leader remains infallible.

Rybakov recognized the parallel with *perestroika* which Gorbachev has introduced in an attempt to window-dress the crisis in the civil economy. With the NEP, the values of the revolution were suddenly turned inside out, private property and commerce were brought back. Rybakov remembered many people committing suicide at this time when the communist ideals they professed — and their reputations along with them — were suddenly in jeopardy. But he also remembered the full shops, the relative abundance of consumer goods, the sense of a renewed normality. As we wallowed in NEP nostalgia, I asked Rybakov directly whether he believed Gorbachev's *perestroika* to be the NEP of the 80s. "Yes."

Although no free-thinking person in Russia thinks Rybakov's book deserves the attention it has received, the members of state-run cultural enterprises gather all over the country to discuss it. There is so little else to read, especially outside Moscow. After all, perhaps half the truth is better than no truth? Recently, in a small



Anatoli Rybakov: convinced that Stalin alone should bear the guilt

settlement in eastern Siberia, the local intelligentsia gathered in the library. An exile banished to Siberia for "political agitation" decided to attend. He entered the discussion and spoke critically of Rybakov's cardboard Socialist Realist characters. He was immediately silenced by the local party officials, who hotly defended the novel.

Why do Soviet officials let out as much as they do? Well, why not? If Gorbachev can get a consensus from the people — and from the West — that it was Stalin alone, and not the Soviet system,

that is responsible for the course of history, then the system over which he presides remains as blameless as ever. It has often been useful in the past to enlist "Soviet culture" in the task of "self-criticism" and exculpation. Anatoli Rybakov joins Ehrenburg and Yevtushenko in a long line of Soviet apologists, whose ultimate fate, however, can never be foreseen.

Children of the Arbat, by Anatoli Rybakov, translated by Harold Shukman, is published this week by Century Hutchinson at £12.95

PROMENADE CONCERT

Magpie genius

BBC SO/Atherton
Albert Hall/Radio 3

To say that Britten learnt his orchestration from Mahler is to overstate the case. Britten was a magpie of genius, educating himself almost instinctively from many sources; moreover, in later works, such as the church parables, his instrumentation went boldly experimental.

But hearing the Four Sea Interludes from *Peter Grimes* played between two Mahler works certainly revealed affinities, and not just in the jagged, rising motifs of the "Storm". There is, for all the huge forces involved, something stark and raw about Britten's orchestration here, and though it is customarily thought evocative of the wind whipping across the eastern marshes, it equally recalls Mahler's turbulent tenorities. The BBC Symphony Orchestra, tightly directed by David Atherton, produced appropriately tough, clear timbres.

Britten did "collaborate" once with Mahler, on *What the wild flowers tell me*, his version of the second movement from Mahler's Third Symphony, arranged at a time when complete performances of this gargantuan work seemed out of the question. But this is no Berio-style recasting, simply a workmanlike, though stylish, thinning-down. Atherton made it sound almost too spruce last night: the yearning disappeared.

However, he caught exactly the spirit of Britten's *An American Overture*. This is the 1941 piece which Britten, curiously, denied ever writing, though with its quickly interweaving woodwinds, its string arpeggios that threaten to turn the whole thing into a barn-dance, and its mock-serious brass chorale replete with tubular bells, it is a presentable enough piece of youthful jauntiness.

Youth, though not often jaunty, was the theme of the concert's second half: 12 songs from Mahler's *Des Knaben Wunderhorn*, intelligently interpreted by Elizabeth Connell and Thomas Allen. The baritone struggled to cut through the heavier orchestrations, but his dignified "Der Tamboursgel" was intensely moving, and he projected well the sly whimsy of the duets. Connell floated some beautifully sustained piano tone, particularly in the doom-laden finale, "Wo die schönen Trompeten blasen"; and the BBC woodwinds seized the big solos with great flair.

Richard Morrison

CONCERT

NYPO/Mehta
Barbican Hall

Some years ago a London concert planner put Bruckner's Seventh Symphony and Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* in the same programme, apparently occasioning a near riot in the brass section. Zabin Mehta's programming for the New York Philharmonic Orchestra's UK visit was more considerate — though I wonder if the horns were still feeling the after-effects of Tuesday's *Rite* as they approached Bruckner's Fourth Symphony the following evening. Certainly there were more split notes in the first two movements than one would expect from an orchestra of this class: enough to create a faint feeling of unease as one approached each important horn figure.

Things improved as the performance progressed and the scherzo and finale found the brass section on time, somewhat stentorian for; even in the most mysterious passages there seemed to be a reluctance to play really quietly.

Mehta's approach was grand and unshakable. He plainly believes in Bruckner's structures, and does not feel that transitions or long repetitive passages have to be helped along by frantic accelerandos or massive allargandos; at least until the finale. It is widely felt that Bruckner narrowly missed providing the all-embracing apotheosis he strives for, despite his superb efforts in the coda. But Mehta's stunning drop to half speed before the recapitulation seemed like a counsel of despair in the end, drawing attention to the fact it was intended to conceal.

Otherwise, one could only admire the way the orchestra phrased this music: repetitive patterns were subtly differentiated, and long lines and counter-subjects sang freely, with particularly memorable contributions from the principal flute and clarinet.

Schubert was one of Bruckner's most important forebears, but Mehta interpreted his youthful Second Symphony not as a self-sufficient statement, not as a precursor of things to come. This was a firmly classical performance, with plenty of propulsive energy. Flashes of bounce and drive in the *Rossini* overture too; though there was something a little merciless about Mehta's handling of Schubert's melodies: too little affection, perhaps.

Stephen Johnson

Partisan parable

LONDON
THEATRE

Captain Carvallo
Greenwich

When Denis Cannan's play first appeared in 1950, it chimed in with the other post-austerity celebrations of the Festival of Britain years. What could better sum up the mood of the war-weary population than a romantic comedy about a wholly fictitious 20th-century war, in which nobody gets killed, the enemy is plainly a good chap (and speaks the same language) and the main issue is a love affair between a partisan's wife and an enemy captain?

At the time, Cannan must have seemed a godsend to the theatre of entertainment: a witty and intelligent story teller, never burdening the spectator with the stylistic weight of Whiting and Fry, and demonstrating the healthy survival of the well-made play.

Hindsight is bound to colour any revival of *Captain Carvallo*, and my only objection to Toby Robertson's robust and well-cast production (transferred to Greenwich from Theatre Cwidy) is that it periodically goes dead in the romantic scenes by taking the time to value, whereas even at that time, Cannan saw them as an illusion.

What the production does reveal is a comic fertility and zest reminiscent of the young Shaw. Set in a central European farmhouse (realized by Sean Cavanagh with a plethora of Balkan fretwork), it carries immediate echoes of *Arms and the Man*, complete with the pert peasant maid and the dashing military lover (a compound of Sergius and Blinitschik). Carvallo arrives to requisition a room, which is a matter of embarrassment to the lady of the house as her husband, Caspar, is away on



Captain's charm: Oliver Parker a partisan mission and his place has been taken by another partisan, Winke, wearing Caspar's clothes.

That basic joke is only the foundation for an accelerating sequence of masquerades. Caspar is a lay preacher, Winke a botanical atheist. Cannan clearly introduced them for the sober purpose of ideological debate. But, as he works it out, the debate spirals into high comic action, with Winke having to play a devout believer as well as a husband simulating jealousy when he finds his "wife" in the captain's arms and then struck down by actual jealousy when the fire-breathing Caspar slams in with Winke's top hat down to his ears.

Here, as elsewhere, Cannan's characters have the true Shavian effrontery. Situations that would floor ordinary mortals only spur them on to fearlessly reckless invention; and it is only when they tell the truth that they are disbelieved. Meanwhile, the plot is developing into a parable on trust. Divided by every ideological and patriotic barrier, the three men find that they are making friends. Cannan admittedly manipulates their responses to achieve this; and even more to engineer the affair between Carvallo and the frostily devout wife. But his prize is to achieve a complex and wonderfully funny climax, where the partisans are planning simultaneously to save Carvallo's soul, and to blow him up, while also enjoying his company over a bottle of brandy. The absurdity of ideologies, lightly touched on here, is given full weight in the bleak ending.

Angela Thorne, passively engulfed in the earlier scenes, gives the ending a harsh dismay that takes it far beyond her own story. Oliver Parker, radiating scoundrel charm, establishes Carvallo as the play's mainspring; but the richest performances come from Neil Stacey's masterfully quick-thinking Winke and Derek Smith's apocryphally pious Caspar.

Irving Wardle

EDINBURGH
FESTIVAL

THEATRE

District Six
Royal Lyceum

No festival nowadays escapes a contribution from a South African troupe denouncing some aspect of apartheid. Here, it is the Baxter Theatre of Cape Town, who sing of the last days of a community where, so the legend goes, races mixed harmoniously. So it had to die, bulldozed into the ground during the mid 1960s.

One way of conveying apartheid's anguish in theatrical terms is by adapting the old story of star-crossed lovers, black Montague and white Capulet; it is a method that risks sentimentality but does articulate both the issue and the pain it brings. The authors of *District Six*, David Kramer and Taliep Petersen, prefer the method of nostalgia: conjuring up an impression of how beautiful the place once was, how happily everyone lived, and how — this fact repeatedly stressed — "In District Six/White, black and brown/Happily mix".

Nostalgia is a convention that makes for colourful staging, and indeed the first moments of the show give us a wise blind pedlar, girls sporting with hoops, both the

OPERA

The Cat Cinderella
Kings Theatre

Even if Roberto De Simone, until recently Artistic Director of San Carlo Opera, cannot be considered a composer of genuinely new music, his "musical fable", *The Cat Cinderella*, is unarguably an example of genuinely adventurous, and quintessentially Italian, theatre. Its subject is the first known written version of the Cinderella story, which appears in Giambattista Basile's collection of Neapolitan fables published between 1634 and 1636.

There are some important differences between the pantomime we know and this story. Those familiar with the character of the fairy godmother, for instance,



Strutting their stuff: townspeople in District Six's opening scene, with Cyril Valentine (centre) as Henry

hula and the hand-driven variety, a comical street trader (Cyril Valentine) and a band of small-time mobsters who strut their stuff about the stage in front of an attractive streetscape, drawn and coloured in painstaking detail (designer, Brian Collins), which climbs away to a distant mosque, and the black plateau of Table Mountain.

But the story that fitfully emerges from among the shortish scenes, each enclosed within blackouts, absolutely contradicts the notion of racial harmony presented as the precious charm of

the district. The aggressive black leader of a group of hopeful *capella* singers resents the success of Cassiem, an Indian songwriter, attacks him with a knife, reports him to the police for kissing a white girl, assaults his mistress and brings the show to an end by dying in a street fight. With his last words, he urges everyone to keep the spirit of District Six alive. On such evidence, it is difficult to feel the place is much of a loss.

Of course, it is impressive that the company can operate at all under the present regime. But every kind of contradiction is built

into the show, puzzling a British audience when not seeming to invite, of all reactions, a patronizing response. Cassiem (Leslie Kleinsmith) is said to be achieving fame through using the music of Africa, but his "Let the 4-4-4-4 Shine" derives from the American *Hair* and "New I think I understand", although sung effectively by three singers under separate spots, could be on the best Rod Stewart album. Star-crossed lovers may not toss up many laughs, but the sense of truth is finer.

Jeremy Kingston

It could be said that music takes up rather little space in the entertainment; only Act Two is entirely sung. That, however, would be to deny the music in De Simone's patter, and also, particularly, to ignore the power of two contrasting set pieces of ritual incantation.

The first, in Act One, is used for comic effect, when four mysterious women mumble sentimentally and count perfunctorily for what seems an eternity, over their rosaries; but in Act Three this is counterbalanced by something altogether more sinister, when the washerwomen, waiting to try on the slipper, work themselves to a frightening, primeval frenzy, as they scrub under the heat of the Neapolitan sun.

It is this alchemical mix of lightness and darkness which makes the evening such a success.

Stephen Pettitt

From the hearth

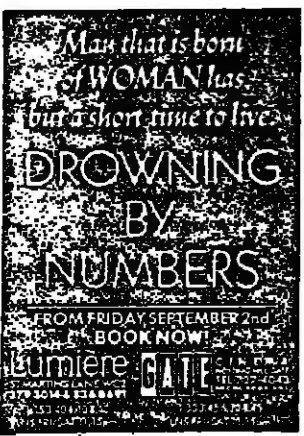
might be shocked to learn that here she is replaced by a young, camp monk.

Furthermore, there is no real prince, only a briefly imagined one, and tiny tots should be warned that this particular Cinderella (the feline element of the title is apparently explained by the fact that she had a habit of sitting close to the hearth) is no paragon of virtue. She has previously decapitated her first stepmother.

The hallmark of De Simone's first production, and of the company he has brought from the Mercadante Theatre in Naples, is quick-fire comedy. More the pity, then, that the subtitles do not begin to keep up with the text, though there is humour in abundance in the players' expertly executed actions and facial ex-

pressions. The work's musical ambitions do not go far beyond pastiche, often with a 17th-century flavour, but that is probably right. De Simone evidently enjoys archaic forms, so that Act One coyly introduces Cinderella (Fausta Vetro) with a *villanella*, while her stepmother, played beautifully by Rino Marcelli (yes, he is a man), lists the virtues of her dead husband and her living daughters by means of a deadpan *habanera*.

Those daughters, six of them and again all played by men, led by the wonderfully haughty Giuseppe De Vittorio as Patrizia, subsequently process in to a hilarious round which extolls, with increasingly risqué intimacy, each daughter's plainly absent physical virtues.



Our price always seems to bring on a cold sweat.



Brow glistening, you empty your wallet into the barman's hand.

Does a pint of Stella really cost that much, you wonder?

It does indeed.

How else could we possibly afford the swingeing sums demanded of us to bag the choicest European barley?

Or pay the king's ransom necessary to secure the pick of Czech hops?

(The Saaz variety and only the most fragrant female hops at that.)

The time-consuming business of allowing Stella to mature twice as long as ordinary beers also swallows up your money.

Parting with so much of it can seem nothing short of agony.

Until, that is, the ecstasy of those first few sips convinces you otherwise.

And makes paying for Stella seem no sweat at all.

Stella Artois. Reassuringly expensive.



PROMENADE
CONCERT

Magpie
genius

BBC SO/Atherton
Albert Hall/Radio 3

To say that Britten learnt his orchestration from Mahler is to overstate the case. Britten was a self-styled, instinctively musical, and somewhat over-the-top, composer. His works, such as the church music, have instrumentation that is boldly experimental.

But hearing the Four Sea Interludes from Peter Grimes played between two Mahler works is like watching a giant, and one of the finest, rising from the sea. There is a sense of huge forces at work. For all the stark and raw about Britten's music, there is a thoughtfulness at the heart of it. It is a music that is both a challenge and a reward. The BBC Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of David Atherton, has provided an appropriate and powerful performance.

But the "Mousethroat" overture, which is a version of the first movement from Mahler's Third Symphony, arranged as a single movement, is a work of great beauty. It is a work that is both a challenge and a reward. The BBC Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of David Atherton, has provided an appropriate and powerful performance.

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Richard Morris
CONCERT

NYMPH Mehta
Barbican Hall

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Stephen Johnson

TIMES DIARY DAVID WALKER

Do you have a keen interest in legal affairs? Are you creative? Are you a tactician? Most important, do you want to relieve civil servants of the onerous job of writing speeches for an increasingly publicity-conscious Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern? If you fit the frame, apply to become the latest of Whitehall's "special advisers".

The job will not in fact be publicly advertised. Soundings are, however, discreetly being made in the Strand, around the lawyers' network, and in Conservative Central Office. It is not clear that Lord Mackay has himself approved the idea. But his officials, who complained at a recent internal meeting of the high level of demands now made on them, think it an excellent scheme; the minister will, as necessary, be prevailed upon.

Four years ago, despite Lord Hailsham's love of playing to the gallery, the Lord Chancellor's Department did not even have a press office. Now PR matters. The talk at this meeting was of a "proactive" stance and of "projecting good-news messages". But officials attending had evidently not forgotten the embarrassment caused for the legal departments in Whitehall by the Westland affair two-and-a-half years ago.

According to our unofficial minute, spokespersons for the Lord Chancellor's Department were to be given a stern warning: "Press office clearance — even if it came from Number 10 — could not be taken as collective ministerial agreement."

Punters in the Whitehall stakes have never much fancied the upper-class thoroughbred that runs under transport department colours. Paul Channon has had too many moves between stables; carries too little weight at Number 10, the tipsters said. But SW1 bookies have lately been revising the odds. Channon's plans for bringing in private finance on infrastructure projects have attracted external attention; within Whitehall, they have been as much impressed by his determination to apply a value-for-money steer to the Department of Transport. He was the first minister to announce a block of work to be run as an "agency" — the Vehicle Inspectorate.

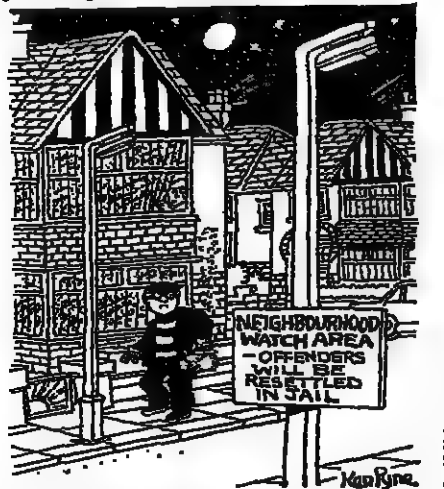
Official estimations of the minister have risen as they have detected a note of competition in Channon's relationship with Lord Young, who had hoped to come across as the most managerially minded minister and announce the first agency. Young plans to make a media-attended trip to Cardiff in October to announce that the Companies Registration Office will become an agency. But on present form Channon could steal his thunder again, as plans to hive off driver testing are well advanced, and may be announced in October.

The detachment of the London Docklands Development Corporation from red-top-class property speculation, and its attachment to a more social-democratic approach to reviving the area, has been confirmed by new appointments to docklands jobs. The organizer of the LDDC's new approach is its chief executive, Michael Honey, who arrived a couple of months ago from Richmond upon Thames, where he'd had a good relationship with the SLD politicians in charge. Honey's appointments are now coming through, and the most conspicuous is Elizabeth Filkin, in the new position of director of community services.

Filkin, 47, is chief executive of the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, one of those peculiarly British voluntary bodies that gets government support but which will on occasion give officials and ministers a hard time. She's independent-minded, and does not give the impression she is going to be in thrall to Canary Wharf developers; at the same time she is unlikely to be terribly respectful towards local councillors.

The LDDC, she says, wants to change its emphasis, and help local people get tangible community benefits. She will be approaching local authorities and groups with land and money, working with housing associations and the private sector to "increase feelings of well-being" in the area.

It is a sign of the times when an activist from the movement to rehabilitate criminals moves to head a new project to stimulate the Neighbourhood Watch and other crime prevention measures — a bit like saying that if you cannot reform them, make sure your windows are double-locked and your neighbour has a pair of binoculars.



Nigel Whiskin, moving next week from the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders to head Crime Concern, naturally doesn't take such a basic view of the move. He talks instead of an anti-crime effort with several branches, one of which is prevention, one an effort to tip the balance for a convicted person against a return to crime.

Crime Concern, set up this summer with a £500,000 grant from the Home Office, fits with the new emphasis from the minister John Patten, which can (though not at Conservative Party conference time) sound a bit fatalistic on deterrence of crime. Whiskin, one of life's enthusiasts, will make contact with watch schemes up and down the country to encourage them to keep the momentum going, and to good private firms into expanding preventive efforts beyond putting up grilles. "I am going to lobby," he says, "for giving a priority to prevention. That may mean a shift of resources away from the criminal justice process to a more community-based approach."

There is no doubt that Mrs Thatcher should swallow her personal aversion to Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, and climb on a plane and discuss with him, this weekend, the security situation in the island of Ireland.

In all probability, the United Kingdom will have to act alone. But it is imperative that a serious attempt is made to involve the Irish government. Although the Anglo-Irish Agreement will have to be part of Mrs Thatcher's baggage, she need not feel personally wedded to every aspect of it.

We all know that she was driven into advocating the agreement against her instincts, on the perfectly understandable ground that it represented the best hope of clamping down on the IRA. Probably she would never have signed it if she had realized the extent of the fear that the agreement aroused in the hearts of so many sensible people in Northern Ireland.

Certainly I, like many, voted with a heavy heart for the agreement in Parliament. But I, like many MPs, feel that one owes the government of the day the benefit of any doubts one has when dealing with the almost insoluble problems of Northern Ireland.

Now, I have no hesitation in saying that on the crucial area of cross-border security, the return has been woefully inadequate.

David Owen advises Mrs Thatcher to recast the Anglo-Irish Agreement and move in more troops to cut the IRA escape route

Time to seal the border

The agreement has nowhere near recompensed for the devastating blow that it has dealt to people's confidence in Britain's long-term intentions to Northern Ireland.

Mrs Thatcher should say to Charles Haughey that she is prepared to recast the Anglo-Irish Agreement. That does not mean tearing it up; it is still an essential truth that the two governments acting in combination will always be a far more effective counter to terrorism and advocate of political unity than ever the United Kingdom acting on its own.

There are prices that are worth paying, therefore, for Anglo-Irish agreement; but there cannot be an Irish veto on security matters. That is a fundamental principle which the United Kingdom can and should never abrogate.

It is now abundantly clear that people cannot be allowed to cross the frontier between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic at will. We will never be able to take the political

initiative within Northern Ireland and counter IRA terrorism while explosives, sophisticated arms and trained terrorists can as freely as at present enter and leave Northern Ireland.

We need a joint security commission capable of operating on both sides of the border controlling the armed forces and the police forces of the two countries and exercising within this border area, if need be, joint jurisdiction with joint courts.

Within this border area there should be deployed all the sophisticated sensing and surveillance equipment that is currently available. Much of it is already deployed by British forces, but very little as yet is deployed on the southern side of the border. That equipment should be made available by the United Kingdom to a joint security commission.

In addition to proposing a joint security commission, Mrs Thatcher should encourage Charles Haughey to follow up his

suggestion of direct talks with James Moynihan, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, as well as with other Northern Ireland politicians.

She should make it clear that she sees the need for a political initiative to run in harness with a security initiative. But though you cannot put a cart before the horse, and in Northern Ireland the horse that is threatening to run away at present is the IRA, and the terrorist threat. To pretend otherwise is to stand truth on its head. And if Charles Haughey will not recognize this, then Mrs Thatcher has no other option but to act, quietly and quickly, to seal the border.

Sealing the border does not involve a "Berlin Wall". That is a fantasy put forward by those who have all along hung back from taking any step which could involve a political outcry. What it does involve is using a combination of military person-

nel, modern technology, watch-towers, closing of roads, cutting down of trees and, only in some areas, barbed wire and mines.

To the argument that this cannot be done for a border of 304 miles of complex contours and water, one has only to pose one question: would the Israeli government or the French government accept that it was impossible to do? The answer is clear — they would laugh out of court any objections. Indeed, their counter-terrorist experts have for years been amazed that we have not taken this simple and obvious step.

There is no point in moving more troops into Northern Ireland just for the sake of it. They will merely provide a larger target for the IRA and deplete our contribution to the British Army of the Rhine without any compensating gain. If more troops are needed, however, in addition to the 3,500 in 3 Brigade already placed on the border since July, then, for that

specific purpose, they should be provided, and Nato would well understand why.

Sealing the border would free the Royal Ulster Constabulary to concentrate on police work in Belfast. No longer being able to cross the border virtually at will would have a major impact on the IRA, particularly where it is concentrated, in places like Dundalk. Though these border measures may not prove to be impenetrable, they would be a massive improvement on the present situation.

This government appeared to be prepared to risk the outcry that would follow the introduction of internment for Northern Ireland only. If, as looks likely, it now wisely rejects unilateral internment, it should not be afraid of unilaterally closing the border.

What would be a tragic anti-climax, with profound political consequences, is having announced to the world its security review, all that followed was the same mixture as before, befed up a little by hints of further deployment of the SAS and the promise of dubious changes in legislation.

The long-suffering people of Northern Ireland, our fellow citizens in the United Kingdom, deserve better than this.

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The author is leader of the Social Democratic Party

Zbigniew Brzezinski

The West's debt of honour



The Pakistanis must be reassured that in this moment of trial the country does not stand alone, and that its foreign policy will not be determined by an act of murder

not be viewed as an isolated event of limited geographical importance but had to be considered as a potential threat to the Persian Gulf region. The uncertain scope of Moscow's final objective in its sudden southern plunge made the American stake in an independent Pakistan all the more important.

But the fact remained that, in the final analysis, Pakistan still stood alone. The American guarantee, which I repeated and discussed in more detail during my first visit to Islamabad, did not alter the fact that Pakistan was now exposed to a twin danger: its fear of India prompted Pakistani forces to be deployed largely along the eastern border, while in the meantime Afghanistan was being transformed into a Soviet province. The temptation to acquiesce and to accommodate, especially given the understandable Pakistani uncertainties at the time regarding American firmness, must have been enormous.

Yet Zia did not waver for a moment. It was clear from the very first conversation with him that Pakistan would not turn its back on developing Afghan resistance, that it would reject Soviet blandishments, and that it would not be intimidated by Soviet threats. I remember being deeply impressed by the man's quiet determination not to permit the Soviet Union to become the geopolitical master of south-west Asia. It was evident to me that Pakistan would stand firm, and that therefore an American-Chinese-Arab coalition of support for the Mujahidin would not be an undertaking in vain.

It is important to reiterate this point. It is easy to forget how

paramount the Soviet Union looked at the time, how uncertain the constancy of the United States appeared, especially in the light of the collapse of the pro-American regime in Iran. Yet Zia realized at once the stakes in "the great game" that was now unfolding as the result of the Soviet military plunge southward. This was the basis for the coalition that was then forged, and that ultimately sustained the heroic resistance of the Afghan people.

Zia was determined to see that "game" played to the very end. He was not prepared to settle for an Afghanistan that remains a Soviet satellite even after the

Soviet army's withdrawal, and in the very last weeks he rebuffed the most threatening and dire Soviet demands that he discontinue his support of the Mujahidin. He felt strongly that the region's security demanded the re-establishment of a truly independent Afghanistan, Islamic and neutral, which would give Pakistan the needed strategic depth in regard both to the Soviet Union and India.

Zia's assassination — even if the actual handiwork of his domestic enemies — now poses the possibility that the Russians may accomplish what Zia's fortitude prevented them from achieving. His successors may, first, be intimidated into forsaking the goal of a truly independent Afghanistan and accept the Soviet formula for either a partitioned Afghanistan or one that remains controlled by a Communist regime with a thin Islamic veneer; and, second, Pakistan may be plunged into a prolonged period of instability, to the point even of threatening

its political integrity. All this makes strong and clear-cut Western support for Pakistan all the more important.

The West, notably the US and the EEC, as well as Japan, should promptly increase economic assistance. The US should maintain and step up military and political support. The Pakistanis must be reassured that in this moment of trial the country does not stand alone, and that its foreign policy will not be determined by murder.

If more facts regarding what actually happened do surface, they should be presented to the United Nations for full venting. The international process would become poisoned if the law of the jungle were to dominate world affairs. The international community has a major self-interest in exposing and condemning such lethal methods.

The West more generally should be sympathetic to Pakistani efforts to strike a new internal political balance. Filling the vacuum created by Zia's death and the decapitation of the country's military high command will not be easy. The Pakistanis should not be pressured by outsiders to move precipitously towards "democracy", for that could actually intensify domestic tensions given the ethnic and political hatreds inherent in Pakistan. A period of political consolidation will now be needed and only the Pakistanis should determine what form it must take. Even if the younger surviving senior officers should move to create a transitional regime, Pakistan deserves the West's sympathetic encouragement, not strident lectures. It is only with such support that Pakistan can evolve towards a truly constitutional regime while staying on course in its foreign policy. It is only with such support that one can make certain that Zia's death will not acquire geostrategic significance.

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The author was National Security Adviser to President Carter, 1977-81.

Commentary • ROBERT KILROY-SILK

Think again, salon socialists

The socialist intellectuals are gathering together. They are almost falling over one another in the rush to establish and belong to new think-tanks. They believe they can revive socialism. They want to make it more attractive and acceptable.

Lady Antonia Fraser and her assortment of literary folk were first off the mark with the 20th July Group. It intends to challenge the cultural ascendancy of the philistine Thatcherite right and promote socialist values. Lady Blackstone was not far behind with her more substantial Institute of Policy Review. Both groups are seeking to tip the intellectual scales away from individualistic, free-market conservatism towards caring, welfare socialism.

It won't work. It is true that these highly educated, intelligent, well-intentioned and predominantly metropolitan upper-class intellectuals will produce some excellent material. They do so all the time. Their essays will be elegant. The tracts will be meticulously researched, have all the proper footnotes and come with cogent conclusions.

But none of it will count for anything. The groups will not revive socialism. That is not to suggest that they have specific intellectual shortcomings. Nor do I wish to imply any reflection on their energy, their sincerity or their commitment. It is merely to say that the task cannot be accomplished, not by anyone. You do not, after all, create or revive a political movement by writing pamphlets or books.

Political ideologies and mass movements are not born in a vacuum. They certainly do not spring fully formed from the imaginations of writers, however saintly and altruistic. The needs of social groups, of classes, peoples and nations, cannot be listed and handed down from on high, however distinguished the self-appointed guardians of the masses might be. Artists and writers, be they ever so grand, cannot in their essays and dissertations define the felt needs of people and make them into social and political demands. At best the "outsiders", for that is what they are, can do no more than follow and reflect what is already happening. They are the product of social and political change, not its cause.

To think otherwise is not only presumptuous, it also indicates a poor grasp of sociology and historical development. Political ideas and ideologies grow from the bottom up. They stem from legitimate grievances and relate to specific needs and demands. That is exactly how the trade unions and the Labour Party came into existence. Neither was "created" because someone suddenly thought it would be a good idea to have them around. They certainly could not have been imposed from the drawing rooms of Campden Hill or the smoking rooms of Westminster.

The people of Doncaster and Durham and Blackburn and Burnley would not stand for it. Intellectuals, especially socialist intellectuals, should know this. They should have learnt

from the bitter experience of the past few years of the failure of Labour's hard-left and loony-left councils to impose arbitrary and alien values on working people. If this is too recent then they should at least know their political history.

Not a single political philosophy, not one ideology, was written by an armchair theorist or a few academic. None of the world's political concepts — not liberty, nor equality, fraternity, individualism, democracy, dictatorship — slipped quietly out of the warmth of a salon or strode purposefully from a lecture hall. They evolved as part and parcel of the daily hustle and bustle of political activity. They grew out of the manoeuvring of cliques, the campaigning of groups, the struggle of classes. They issued from strikes, demonstrations and rallies. They were written to argue a case, refute a charge, meet a challenge. They were relevant.

They may not, it is true, read like that to today's reader. But that is how they came about. This is as true of Plato's *Republic* as it is of Hobbes's *Leviathan*. It applies to John Locke's *Treatise of Government* as it does to Thomas Paine's *The Rights of Man*. It is the case with John Stuart Mill's *Essay on Liberty* and Machiavelli's *The Prince*.

None of these writers was suddenly gripped by a whim. They did not come over with a sudden desire to do good works. They did not get on the telephone, send round the hat, set up a committee. There was nothing

casual, amateur, or dilettante about any of them. They were not affecting a posture or role playing. They were a part of that which they wrote about. That is why they were relevant.

That was true of the socialist philosophers. The Communist Manifesto was not an off-the-cuff idea put together in an idle moment. It was written to normalize the already existing demands of the Communist League. All Marx's writings reflect his political activity; and his links with the international working-class movement.

The same is true of the more contemporary socialist writings, be it Edward Bernstein's revisionism or Tony Crosland's *The Future of Socialism*. The new socialist groups think they can emulate these, but they cannot. To succeed they would have to be relevant. To achieve that they will need to be part of the living and changing politics they seek to revive. They are not, have never been, and never will be. They have no standing.

But even if they were, they could not succeed. The people they seek to converse with have moved on. They are no longer in the large factories, many are outside the trade unions, and few are members or even supporters of the Labour Party. They will not stand being patronized. When they are ready they will elect their own leaders and determine their own ideology. Those who think otherwise are deluding themselves.

AUGUST 26 ON THIS DAY 1919

LONDON-PARIS AIR SERVICE
Passengers and goods

Yesterday three aeroplanes starting from Hounslow inaugurated the London-Paris Air Service, which is intended to run daily. Of these one, an Airco 16, completed the return journey in scheduled time, another, an Airco 16, reached Paris in scheduled time, the third, a Handley Page twin engine, Rolls-Royce, speed 70 miles an hour, arrived in Paris yesterday soon after 1 o'clock, but will not make the return journey until to-day.

The first machine to leave was the Handley Page, which left Hounslow at 8.40 yesterday morning with 11 passengers. She was piloted by Major Foot, and the passengers included Mr. L. A. Norland, of *The Times*; Major C. G. Turner, *Daily Telegraph*; Mr. E. A. Periss, of the *Daily Chronicle*; Mr. Harold Begbie, *Daily Chronicle*; Mr. Tourtell, *Daily Express*; Mr. Bartholomew, *Daily Mirror*; and Mr. Croshill, *Daily News*.

The second machine to leave was the Airco 16, which left at 9.10. This machine, in addition to the passenger, Mr. G. M. Stevenson-Reese, *Evening Standard*, and Lieutenant Lawford, the pilot, carried a full load, including a number of daily

newspapers, a consignment of leather from a London firm to a firm in Paris, several boxes of grouse, and a considerable number of jars of Devonshire cream. This machine was due to arrive in Paris at 11.40, and did so to the minute. She left on the return journey at 12.40, and arrived at Hounslow at 2.45. The machine, like the Airco 16, is owned by the Aircraft Transport and Travel Company.

The third machine, a Handley Page, was piloted by Major Cyril Patterson, who carried Mr. Norland, Mr. Periss, Mr. Begbie, Mr. Tourtell, Mr. Bartholomew, Mr. Croshill, and Mr. Stevenson-Reese. It arrived at Paris at 12.40, and did so to the minute.

A twin-engine Handley Page machine, piloted by Captain Shakespeare, which left London last Thursday morning to take passengers to Brussels, arrived at the Crickhowell Aerodrome yesterday, after having successfully accomplished the double journey. It will be remembered that soon after the machine left the aerodrome last Thursday a letter arrived for one of the passengers. The machine, which was circling above the aerodrome, could not be re-communicated with, so a fast two-seater was sent in pursuit. It took the larger and slower machine over Hounslow, and both machines descended and the letter was safely delivered.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

DEFICIT MANAGEMENT

Rarely does a single statistic shift the balance in an economic debate decisively. But yesterday's revelation of a record £2.7 billion visible trade deficit in July has done just that. Mr Lawson and the Treasury were showing signs yesterday of struggling to catch up with the tide of events. Private sector demand is growing too fast and strong measures are needed to slow it down.

Until two weeks ago, when the regular batch of monthly statistics for July started to emerge, the spring boom in consumer demand could be seen as a blip on the economy's chart of smooth upward progress. That was the thinking on which leading rates were raised by 3.5 points in what was intended to be a temporary response to a temporary problem.

The July balance of payments gap was, however, more than half the annual deficit predicted by Mr Lawson in his Budget. Taken with the acceleration in retail sales and bank and building society lending, it suggests that the Budget analysis of the economy may need to be rewritten. Mr Lawson has tacitly admitted as much by suggesting that high interest rates are here to stay.

The politically important Budget tax cuts were not inflationary in the context of a booming government financial surplus. But they were made in the context of residual fears that the October stock market crash had damaged confidence and would trim British and world economic growth. Instead, the realization that large cuts in tax rates could be combined with sound government finance made consumers and industry too confident.

Private spending is now rising fast enough in absolute terms to cause worries about inflation. It is rising so fast relative to our main trade competitors that the trade gap is taking the immediate strain. But that threatens to rebound in terms of an equally inflationary depreciating currency.

Until now, the Chancellor has regarded maintaining the currency as an anti-inflationary priority. But he has seen the widening trade gap as merely a symptom of temporary domestic overheating. There were signs yesterday that Mr Lawson now realizes that an import surge is a problem in its own right.

So he should. City projections of £15 billion would put the current account deficit at 3.9 per cent of national income, proportionately as high as West Germany's surplus. It would be much higher than the "unsustainable" American trade deficit, currently estimated at 3.1 per cent of national income and regarded as one of the next President's toughest problems. Ja-

pan's surplus should be down to 2.9 per cent this year.

Even if City projections are too pessimistic, therefore, Britain's trade gap represents a serious economic distortion. The cause is clear. The British economy appears to be growing at a rate of at least 4.5 per cent, substantially faster than expected. The OECD has forecast that the economies of the seven leading industrial countries will grow by an average 3 per cent this year. Our closest European competitors, are expected to achieve no more than 2.5 per cent.

Britain is therefore sucking in imports at an accelerating pace. Exports are growing satisfactorily, however, suggesting the economy is growing too fast rather than becoming uncompetitive.

The Chancellor has unilaterally dismissed himself of many of the traditional weapons of response. A reversal of income tax cuts would give the wrong economic and political signals. An indirect tax impost, more sensible in terms of economic management, would hurt many of those who least benefited from the cut in income tax rates. Financial liberalization has exacerbated the economic problem but made direct credit or banking controls more avoidable. The Bank of England must use its prudential powers to twist the arms of banks — if not building societies — strongly.

Relying on interest rates is more risky. Yesterday's rise, with hints of 12 per cent for many months, should buy the Chancellor two months' grace in the financial markets. The shock value of yesterday's trade figures is unlikely to be repeated in kind next month. But mortgages may have to face more painful readjustment before interest rates alone work.

The Chancellor may need to re-arm himself. The more profound lesson, however, is that Britain can no longer manage its economy in isolation from its main competitors in the European Community. The visible trade gap with the other 11 countries is at the heart of the balance of payments problem. For most of the past decade, it averaged £2 billion a year. In the past two years, it has shot up to £8 billion, then £9 billion. In the past three months, it has reached an annual rate of £14 billion.

Trade problems are no longer caused by consumer imports from the Far East or uncompetitive British industry. They chiefly reflect economic imbalances with other members of the customs union. They will grow more central to economic and exchange rate policies as the next four years bring that union ever closer.

DEATH AMONG THE SEALS

Despite confident assertions that pollution is the culprit, there is, as yet, no clear evidence of why North Sea seals are dying in such disturbing numbers. There are several contending theories, and none of them can wholly be discounted at this point.

The first is that the disease is purely natural. There is no reason, in principle, why the Herpes and Picorna viruses that have been identified in the dead animals should not have occurred naturally. In practice, however, the current high level of mortality in the seal populations suggests strongly the working of other factors alongside any natural ones.

The second is that the seals are suffering from hunger caused by over-population and over-fishing of their food. This has certainly produced catastrophic results further north in the Barents Sea. Earlier this year, thousands of starving seals moved into inshore waters, ravaging the local fishing industry.

This is much less likely to be a factor, however, in the North Sea where recent strict limits on fishing have allowed stocks to replenish themselves. This year they are reported to be at their highest for a long time. Moreover the seals are not over-populous. They were much hunted earlier in the century and, before the current problems, were only beginning to return to their pre-1900 numbers.

Attention has centred therefore on the third suggestion for the principal cause of seal deaths — that the seals have plenty of fish to eat but that those fish have been poisoned in some way. A sophisticated food chain operates in the sea and seals are at the top of it. Thus, like man, they are very vulnerable to pollution.

Any durable pollutants in such a chain pass from smaller creatures to larger ones and accumulate in the largest mammals at the top, often stored in their fat. Such pollutants may either do direct damage or, more likely, make the animal less resistant to ailments which it would normally survive.

There are many different artificial chemicals now present in the North Sea which may be responsible for the generally deteriorating health of the seals. Those on which most scientific attention is now concentrated are known as Polychlorinated Biphenyls, or PCBs, which were developed in the 1920s and were commonly used in electrical equipment, such as transformers and capacitors.

Growing concern about the risks to health brought production of PCBs to a stop in

Britain, America and most West European countries at the end of the 1970s. But they have remained in use in existing equipment, and are still being produced in many other countries.

They were present in the electrical transformers on the Piper Alpha oil rig, and an estimated four tonnes flowed into the North Sea as a result of the disaster. Scientists believe, however, that it is too soon for the seals to be affected, and the direction of North Sea currents and the places where the epidemic was first observed seem to rule out this explanation.

PCBs are also notable for their extreme durability. Scientists in Holland are confident that they have established links between PCBs and both sterility and immune deficiency in seals and other mammals. No conclusive evidence has been produced, however, to prove that the level of PCBs found in the seals affected by the present epidemic is greater than in healthy seals.

So far, the British Government has been much more reluctant to accept the link between pollution and marine animal diseases than have the Dutch, West German and Swedish governments. These states have adopted the precautionary principle with regard to pollution, according to which action should be taken not when damage has been proved to have occurred but if there are substantial grounds to fear that it may occur.

The British Government continues to demand full scientific proof. The Paris Commission, the international agreement regulating pollution in European waters, tries uneasily to combine the two principles.

The seal epidemic needs to be investigated in its own right. The Government's grant of extra funding to research its causes is a proper response in this respect. If the disease spreads to rarer species, some may be in real danger of extinction.

The Government could have acted sooner. The disease broke out on the eastern shores of the North Sea several weeks ago, and the probability was always that it would spread to Britain. An earlier response would have avoided giving the impression that measures were being taken in panic. The delay has done nothing to diminish the belief, held by several of Britain's neighbours, that we pay little attention to general environmental problems, and act only when Britain itself is directly affected.

This may further alarm the self-measurer.

My advice is that your general practitioner is the best person to carry out not only routine blood pressure estimation but also routine general health examinations. Even toy trains require trained drivers!

Yours sincerely,
FRANK PRESTON
(former director, British Airways medical services),
2 Ravensmead,
Chalfont St Peter,
Buckinghamshire.
August 25.

A plea for pews

From Mr Richard Beattie
Sir, Why is it that it is very hard to find a London church now that still has its original pews in use? The chairs that have increasingly come to replace them are inferior in almost every respect, they are

fimsier and therefore more easily broken and completely unstable for the elderly or infirm.

Chairs are more fiddly to clean than pews and they look unattractive. There is no place to prop up a hymn book or the enormous prayer books which are used nowadays, nor is there anywhere for a gentleman to place his hat. It is so uncomfortable to kneel at a chair that only the most agile now attempt it.

I suppose the argument is that chairs can be moved to the side of the church so that other activities can take place — but what other activities do we really want in our churches? What can we do to save the pew?

Yours faithfully,
DIANA BEATTIE,
14 Dalmore Road,
Dulwich, SE21.
August 18.

Forest clearance and Nile floods

From Mr Patrick Allen

Sir, In the light of the appalling floods in Sudan surely some of the most telling figures ever to emerge from a UN study are those quoted by your correspondent in the report titled, "Clearance of forests adds to rain havoc" (August 19).

I refer to the study's finding that while the remaining forests along the tributaries of the Nile soak up 97-99 per cent of any rain that falls, precisely the same percentage of rainfall drains straight into the river once the trees have gone. This mirror-image effect of deforestation is as illuminating as it is depressing.

With the felling continuing unabated it is no great surprise that the Nile is now at its highest level this century. In former times the torrential downpour that hit Khartoum on August 5 and 6 would not have had anything near such calamitous and heartbreaking consequences.

In these desert lands the cost of deforestation, whether measured in economic terms, or environmental terms, or above all in terms of human suffering, is plainly far in excess of any possible short-term gains. The process should, as a matter of urgency, be reversed.

Humanitarian considerations aside, it would be cheaper for governments and aid agencies to fund the replanting of forests in watershed areas and the protecting of those that still exist than to rush in with emergency relief at ever-decreasing intervals.

The belief, still widespread, that famine and disease, caused alternatively by drought and floods, are natural disasters is dangerously wrong-headed. They are not acts of God — an affront to the Almighty — they result from the acts of man. Both cause and cure are in our own hands.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK ALLEN,
42 Hawthorn Way, Cambridge.
August 23.

Muscular disease

From Professor P. J. Lachmann, FRCS

Sir, On August 19 you published an article from your Science Editor, entitled "Gene surgery may halt muscle illness", suggesting that treatment for Duchenne muscular dystrophy by introducing a normal dystrophin gene into affected boys was about to be achieved. Unfortunately this is not likely to be the case and raising such premature hopes can cause considerable distress to affected families.

The recognition that the absence of the newly recognised muscle protein — dystrophin — is the cause of Duchenne muscular dystrophy and the cloning of the dystrophin gene by Dr Louis Kunkel and his collaborators in Boston are vital advances in the understanding of muscular dystrophy and have already provided techniques for the early diagnosis of affected boys and for improved genetic counselling.

It is also now possible to embark on a search for rational forms of therapy. Once the function of dystrophin in normal muscle is known it may become possible to circumvent, to a greater or lesser extent, the consequences of its absence. While in the longer term it may also become possible to restore the absent protein, possibly by the introduction of a normal gene into the affected muscles, a number of substantial problems remain to be resolved before introducing any gene into human tissue; and dystrophin provides a particular problem in having one of the largest genes yet described.

Although molecular biology is a remarkably fast moving discipline, it is unrealistic to believe that gene therapy for muscular dystrophy is imminent.

Yours faithfully,
PETER LACHMANN, Chairman,
Muscular Dystrophy Group of Great Britain,
Nattrass House,
35 Macaulay Road, SW4.

Philosophical truths

From Professor Jude P. Dougherty

Sir, In your series of reports on the eighteenth World Congress of Philosophy meeting at Brighton, *The Times* has caught the bankrupt tone of much contemporary philosophy. But there are many of us who still think that philosophy is a science with conclusions that can be passed from generation to generation with good effect, both for the individual and for society.

The philosophy *perennis* claims truths about man, about man's relationship to nature, to his fellow man and to God. Careful in its analyses and in its demonstra-

Putting discipline back in jails

From Lord Harris of Greenwich

Sir, I think that the public must be becoming increasingly weary with the endless disputes between branches of the Prison Officers' Association and the Home Office. Even as the dispute at Holloway ended Mr Bartlett, the Chairman of the POA, said that there were over 30 others; I am prepared to believe him.

As a former Chairman of the Parole Board and previously a Home Office minister responsible for prisons, I am well aware of the severe problems, caused by the prisoners overcrowding in our prisons. I know that there are many dedicated prison officers working in most difficult conditions. But I do not believe that we can tolerate for much longer the anarchy in part of our penal system.

Every day, prisoners due to appear in court do not do so because of disputes in a number of prisons. Similarly, well over 1,200 prisoners (some of them mentally ill) are being shuffled round the country, moving in and out of crowded and thus sometimes insanitary police cells. Hundreds of police officers are being taken off the streets in order to act as wardens and in some cases, mental nurses.

I have on a number of occasions criticised the Government for failing to act more resolutely to deal with the overcrowding in our prisons. But this does not constitute the principal reason why we are experiencing these never-ending disputes in our prisons; we had them well over 10 years ago, when prison numbers were significantly lower. Overcrowding exacerbates the problem; it is not its cause.

Judges and prisons

From His Honour Judge A. C. L. Lewisohn

Sir, The remarks attributed to Mr David Cooks, QC, Chairman of the Criminal Bar Association (report, August 15) appear to suggest that judges should pay reduced regard to the currently accepted canons of sentencing, one but only one of which is the tariff criterion; but that they should add in their personal reaction to prison conditions and statistics.

I disagree. Harmony in sentences is incapable of achievement, but is surely a desirable aim. Heaven knows that politicians and press are not slow to pounce on inconsistencies and hold them up to ridicule.

Troubles in Ireland

From Sir Ian Morrow

Sir, The IRA will continue to earn support and approval as long as the Catholic minority believe they are being treated as second-class citizens.

One area in which it is glaringly true is in employment. The percentage of Catholics unemployed far exceeds that of Protestants. There are some firms which, as a matter of policy, have few or no Catholics on their payroll.

If all employers were compelled to have, say, one third of their workforce from the Catholic community and this was carried out, it would help greatly to make the minority feel they were equal with the majority.

Certain firms in Northern Ireland have voluntarily applied this policy with few problems, and with considerable benefit to the Catholics in their area.

Yours truly,
IAN MORROW,
2 Albert Terrace Mews, NW1.
August 22.

From Mr Terence J. Toohar
Sir, Once again the IRA have struck a blow which involves massive loss of life and once again the usual, and I dare say heartfelt, platitudes are trotted out by various community leaders.

As an Irishman, a Catholic and a policeman for 29 years, may I be permitted, through your newspaper, to ask the Catholic bishops of Ireland, and in particular Cardinal O'Fee, to give active and

Great plagues of history

From Professor J. D. Gillett

Sir, I find it difficult to reconcile the account given by Henry Gee in *Science* Report of August 11 with what I understand to be the history of plague epidemics in Europe. Having mentioned the Justinian pandemic of the 6th century and the Black Death of 1347-51, he goes on to say that the next sudden epidemic was the Great Plague of 1664-65.

But what about the epidemic in London of 1563, when it is estimated that 17,000 died out of a population of about 93,000 (plus a further 2,700 deaths in Westminster, a separate city in those days)? And what about the years 1575 and 1593 (more than 20,000 deaths) and 1603 (said to be the worst in the string of epidemics since 1349)?

And what about 1625 (20,000 deaths in 11 weeks) and 1636 (a further 10,000)? There was then a lull in London lasting for 28 years before the Great Plague struck in 1664. Elsewhere in Europe, however, epidemics of plague continued: Cracow, 1652 (37,000); Danzig and Copenhagen, 1653; Naples, 1656 (20,000); Amsterdam, 1664 (24,000).

Nor was 1666 the last of the epidemics in Europe: Malta, 1675 (11,000); Vienna, 1679 (76,000); Prague, 1681 (83,000); Halle, 1682 (4,397 out of 10,000); Warsaw, 1702; Danzig, 1709; Copenhagen, 1711; and finally the huge "visitation" in Marseilles, 1720-23, in which 40,000 died out of a population of some 100,000. This was followed by another lull until the great Volga outbreak of 1878-79.

I question also whether crowding in the cities was the sole factor favouring the natural selection of virulent strains. Bubonic plague was a serious problem to parts of rural Uganda in the 1930s. The numbers involved in these epidemics were much smaller than in those of the past in Europe and Asia. But there is no doubt about the virulence of the bacterium involved for I never saw a single human survivor, although there must have been some who fled and so served to spread the disease to new areas.

The disease appeared in epidemic form following the introduction of cotton as a cash crop. With the storing of cotton seed came an enormous increase in the numbers of black rats, *Rattus rattus*, followed by the rural epidemics of plague in the surrounding countryside sparsely populated by human beings.

If increase in population was the key factor then, might it not have been an increase in the number of rats rather than an increase in the number of people per se? I cannot think that the elegant explanation given in your *Science* Report for the sudden appearance (and, equally important, the sudden disappearance) of bubonic plague can be the whole answer.

Yours etc,
J. D. GILLETT,
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine,
Keppel Street, WC1.
August 16.

overt support to the security forces in Ulster.

Instead of merely condemning the actions of the IRA it is not time to ask and indeed encourage the Catholic people of the province to come forward with information to try to put the IRA where they belong, and that is behind bars!

It may well be that my approach is too simplistic, but I was always of the opinion that being a Catholic involves more than mere rhetoric.

Yours faithfully,
TERENCE TOOHER,
Barkingside, Essex.
August 22.

From Mr Robert Burrage
Sir, As the judge in the *Gay News* case in 1977, in which the defendants were charged with criminal libel for publishing a blasphemy about Christ (incidentally, the first such trial for 56 years, and the last) may I be permitted to comment on the controversy over the film *The Last Temptation of Christ*.

In the *Gay News* case, the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords confirmed that in such a prosecution it was not necessary to prove an intention to blaspheme; all that had to be proved was an intention to publish an actual publication. And if the jury decided (and it had to be their decision) that what was published was blasphemous, the verdict must be guilty.

The definition of blasphemy (not really challenged in the appeal) was

any publication about God or Christ or the Christian religion, the Bible or some sacred subject (which is) so scurrilous or abusive or offensive as would, if published, tend to vitiate the Christian religion and could lead to a breach of the peace.

I added that, as this country has now become a multi-religious society, if it were necessary I would be prepared to give a similar direction with regard to a blasphemy about any person or thing held sacred by any other religion.

I have not, of course, seen the film in question, but I have read factual accounts of some of the scenes and some of the script. If my information is accurate, there can be no doubt that there appear to be grounds on which to found a charge of criminal libel. For obvious reasons, it would be improper for me to speculate as to the probable outcome.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN KING-HAMILTON,
Royal Air Force Club,
128 Piccadilly, W1.
August 18.

Royal double

From Mrs Beatrice Mary Muir

Sir, I am rather cross I didn't have a little flutter before yesterday's announcement.

Yours faithfully,
BEATRICE MARY MUIR,
29a Lansdown Crescent,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
August 23.

Belated awards

From Mr Anthony Maynard

Sir, Need announcements of bravery awards (report, August 23), such as those just made to police officers on duty during the Broadwater Farm estate riots of three years ago, really take quite so long?

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY MAYNARD,
193 John Aird Court,
St Mary's Terrace, W2.
August 23.

Jordanians on some kind of linguistic neutral territory.

A negotiation where one side is using their native language and the other a foreign language is full of personal tensions. Am I missing subtle inferences? Is he laughing at my quaint vocabulary? Have I made any grammar mistakes? If both sides are using a foreign language, these feelings tend to be replaced by mutual respect and some justified pride, a much better background to developing co-operation in business.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HIGGINS,
University of Bristol,
School of Education,
Helen Woodhouse Building,
35 Berkeley Square,
Bristol, Avon.

Lessons to learn

From Mr John Higgins

Sir, Mr Hulbert (August 17) deplores the lack of Dutch teaching when we do so much business with Holland. However, one can imagine that a schoolchild might well be unwilling to start a course in Dutch when the work they eventually do may turn out to need Italian. This kind of uncertainty provides a marvelous excuse for learning no languages at all.

In fact we do not need to learn Dutch on a large scale; the Dutch, like the Scandinavians, are magnificent polyglots. What we do need is to have some other languages so that, when suitable, we can converse with the Dutch or the Italians or the Brazilians or the



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
August 25: The Prince Edward, Patron of the Cambridge Youth Theatre, attended a performance of *The Heart of a Dog* at the Southside International Community Centre, Nicholson Street, Edinburgh, this afternoon.

His Royal Highness was received by the organisers of the Cambridge Youth Theatre (Mrs Jenny Culank and Mrs Claudette Brynston-Cross).

This evening, The Prince Edward, President of the National Youth Music Theatre, attended a performance of *The Little Rascals* at the George Square Theatre, Edinburgh.

The Duke of Edinburgh, President of World Wide Fund for Nature International, will visit Hong Kong from November 1 to 4.

The Princess Royal, President of the Federation Equestre Internationale, will attend the twenty-second CAISF Congress and General Assembly at the Palais de Beaulieu, Lausanne, Switzerland, from November 3 to 6.

The Duke of Gloucester celebrates his birthday today.

Princess Alexandra will visit the Caribbean Dependencies Territories of the Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands during the first two weeks of November.

Latest wills

Mr George Abercromby Mitchell, of Aldington, Kent, chairman of the London Council of Social Service 1945-53, left an estate valued at £662,368 net. He left a number of bequests to charity including £34,000 to the National Council for Voluntary Organizations.

Marjorie Anton Jacob, of Hove, East Sussex, left an estate valued at £253,093 net. She left personal legacies totalling £1,000 and the residue equally between the Brighton and Hove branch of the British Polio Fellowship and St Dunstan's, Orpington, East Sussex.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Mrs Elizabeth Nora Jolly, of Penn, Buckinghamshire, £288,946.
Mr Eric Henry MacNellie, of Aldridge, West Midlands, £387,922.
May Marriott, of Woodthorpe, Nottinghamshire, £302,752.

Birthdays today

Sir Kenneth Barnes, civil servant, 66; Sir Alex Fletcher, former MP, 59; Major-General N.L. Foster, 79; Mr S.T. Graham, former chairman, International Commodities Clearing House, 67; Sir Ian McGregor, expert on tropical medicine, 66; Professor Brian Macgrath, expert on tropical medicine, 81; Sir Hugh Parry, colonial administrator, 77; Mr Malcolm Pyrah, show jumper, 47; Viscount Runciman of Doxford, 88; Miss Alison Steadman, actress, 42; Sir Gerald Threlby, former chairman, Allied Breweries, 75; General Sir Harry Tuzo, 71; Professor J.E. Vary, principal, Westfield College, 66; the Right Rev Maurice Wood, former Bishop of Norwich, 72.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Sir Robert Walpole, statesman, Houghton, Norfolk, 1676; Joseph Michel Montgolfier, pioneer balloonist, Annunay, France, 1740; Antoine Lavoisier, scientist, Paris, 1743; Albert, Prince Consort, Coburg, Germany, 1819; John Buchan, 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, governor-general of Canada 1935-40, novelist and biographer, Perth, 1875; Guillaume Apollinaire, poet, Rome(?), 1880; Jules Romain, writer, Chateaufort, France, 1883.

DEATHS: Anton van Leeuwenhoek, microscopist, Delft, 1723; Louis-Philippe, king of the French, 1830-48; Claremont, Surrey, 1850; William James, psychologist, Chocoma, New Hampshire, 1910; Lon Chaney, film actor, Los Angeles, 1930; Frank Harris, writer, Nice, 1931; Ralph Vaughan Williams, London, 1958; Sir Francis Chichester, circumnavigator of the world 1966-67, Plymouth, 1972.

Julius Caesar landed in Britain, 55 BC.

Bravery award

Flight Lieutenant Hugh Pierce, flight commander of B flight, No 22 squadron, search and rescue helicopters at RAF Leuchars, has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for twice entering a burning helicopter to rescue its crew after crashing on Ben More in Perthshire.

Royalty restored

Work has started on the restoration of the statues of two kings who for more than 300 years have graced the carriageway leading to Glamis Castle, Forfar, the Queen Mother's childhood home.

Genetic engineers cut the lisianthus to half its size

By Robert Matthews, Technology Correspondent

American scientists have announced the development of what they claim is the world's first genetically engineered flower to be sold on the open market.

The plant, which has deep purple blooms about the size of tulips, is a dwarf version of the lisianthus, whose long stems have been engineered down to a more convenient size.

The result is a six to 10-inch mutation of the two-foot tall lisianthus that is popular in many parts of the world as a cut flower.

The Society of American Florists and the US Department of Agriculture plan to bring

the plant to the market in April next year. Experiments have been underway for many years into ways of genetically altering plants to give them better characteristics, for example improved pest resistance.

However, such plants are subject to rigorous scientific approval before being released on to the market. Flowers do not require such strict control.

The plant is the outcome of the Agricultural Research Service's new floral crops programme, which is funded jointly by the Agriculture Department and the society.



John King puts his 140mph powerboat through its paces in preparation for the Budweiser Powerboat Grand Prix in the Royal Victoria Docks, London, on Monday. Heats will be held in the dock on Saturday and Sunday (Photograph: James Gray).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr M.S.E. Kaplan

and **Lady Jane Primrose**

The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr and Mrs R. Kaplan, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States, and Jane, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Rosebery, of Dalmeny House, South Queensferry, West Lothian.

Mr A.R. Haley

and **Miss J.E. Kighley**

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Brian Haley, of Mirfield, West Yorkshire, and Judith, daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Kighley, of Kilmacolm, Renfrewshire.

Mr A.J.C. Palmer

and **Miss L.T. Jarrold**

The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of the late Mr Tony Palmer, and of Mrs Nora Palmer, of Wyckville, Burton Road, Bridport, Dorset, and Lucile, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Jarrold, of Old Hall, Calster St Edmund, Norfolk.

Mr M.A. Rawall

and **Miss C.L. Arnold**

The engagement is announced between Marcus, son of Mr and Mrs Martin Rawall, of Caversham, Berkshire, and Clare, daughter of Mr and Mrs Simon Arnold, of Ditching, Sussex.

Mr C.J. Sanger-Davies

and **Miss V.C. Smith**

The engagement is announced between Christopher Joseph, eldest son of Mr and Mrs M.J. Sanger-Davies, of Rushbury House, Winchcombe, and Victoria Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. South, of Riddles Farm, Cottingham Fields, Cheltenham.

Mr R.G. Speir

and **Miss S.G.K. Hedley**

The engagement is announced between Robert, youngest son of the late Mr and Mrs M.A. Speir, of Middleton Tyas, North Yorkshire, and Sarah, younger daughter of Major and Mrs P.J.O. Hedley, of Wareham, Dorset.

Mr N.P.S. Taylor

and **Miss J.A. Stoker**

The engagement is announced between Seth, only son of the late Colonel and Mrs Philip Taylor, and Jacqueline, elder daughter of Mr John Stoker and Mrs Anne Stoker, of London.

Mr S.H.B. Twining

and **Miss M.A.V. Ryznar**

The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of Mr and Mrs Sam Twining, of Middle Wallop, Hampshire, and Marzena, daughter of Colonel and Mrs Joseph Ryznar, of Warsaw, Poland.

Mr A.G. Walsh

and **Miss E.S. Belmonte**

The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Dr and Mrs Geoffrey Walsh, of Blackburn, Lancashire, and Emma, daughter of the late Mr Guido Belmonte and of Mrs Prudence Seward, of London, E.C1.

Henderson wins the senior piobaireachd

By Angus Nicol

The three-day piping event at Oban, with competitors from all over the world, is growing in popularity. Yesterday was the day of the piobaireachd.

The Senior Piobaireachd, open only to holders of the Highland Society of London's Gold Medal, was a superb recital of many of the famous big tunes, dominated by an excellent performance of the Lament for Donald Bannockburn by Murray Henderson (who won the Silver Chanter at Dunvegan earlier this month).

The winner of the Senior Piobaireachd also wins the Grant's Whisky Piobaireachd trophy and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Cup.

The set tunes for the Highland Society of London's Gold Medal included some that are little heard today. The Gold Medal was won, however, with the well-known tune *Beloved Scotland* played by Roderick MacLeod, who also came third in the Senior event with the first setting of the *Battle of Auldearn*.

The Silver Medal, which attracted an entry of 47 competitors, was divided into two

halves, five from each playing in the final. The winner was Corporal Stuart Sampson, Gordon Highlanders, who played the *MacFarlane's Gathering*.

The fourth contest was the Highland Society of London's McGregor Memorial competition; this is a two-tune competition for pipers aged 21 years and under. The winner was Moira Morrison, of Fort William, who played first the *MacFarlane's Gathering* and second *MacDonald's Kinlochmoidart's Lament*, No 1.

RESULTS
Gold Medal: 1 Roderick MacLeod (Beloved Scotland), 2 Dr Angus MacLeod (The Battle of Auldearn), 3 William MacCallum (Gordon Highlanders), 4 Eric MacLeod (Gordon Highlanders), 5 David MacLeod (Gordon Highlanders), 6 John MacLeod (Gordon Highlanders), 7 John MacLeod (Gordon Highlanders), 8 John MacLeod (Gordon Highlanders), 9 John MacLeod (Gordon Highlanders), 10 John MacLeod (Gordon Highlanders).

Appointments



Lord Morton of Shmoo, QC, (above) to be a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland.

Professor Kenneth Calman, dean of postgraduate medicine and professor of postgraduate medical education at Glasgow University, to be chief medical officer in the Scottish Home and Health Department. He takes the post on January 1, on the retirement of Dr Iain Macdonald.

OBITUARY

COL GEORGE HEWETSON

Airborne operations from D-Day to Suez

Colonel George Hewetson, DSO, OBE, who died on August 18 at the age of 78, was a Territorial Army officer who fought throughout the war, virtually from first to last, so relishing the experience that he afterwards became a regular and continued to enjoy a highly successful and active career, particularly in airborne formations.

In the 1930s when he joined the Territorials he was a teacher in Cumberland, and had also gained six rugby caps for Cumberland and Westmorland.

When his unit, the 5th Battalion the Border Regiment, was ordered to France shortly after the outbreak of war he went as its adjutant. The 5th Border Regiment was involved in some of the heaviest fighting in May 1940, but battled its way back to Dunkirk in resolute style, and was one of the very few units which regained the shores of Britain with all its weapons.

In 1943, keen to return to active service, Hewetson was among a band of Borderers who volunteered to join the Parachute Regiment, dropping into Normandy after D-Day, he commanded its 8th Battalion with great verve in a series of stiff actions including

the German winter counter-offensive in the Ardennes. While preparing the battalion for an attack across the Rhine early in 1945 Hewetson was severely injured when a glider went out of control and crashed into a group of officers and men in which he was standing. Though knocked out and badly bruised, Hewetson shrugged off the effects of these contusions and discharged himself from the field ambulance the very next day, to resume the battle at the head of his battalion.

In a severely contested crossing of the river he was awarded the DSO for his fine performance in command of his unit, which put the enemy opposed to it to flight, after fierce fighting.

Hewetson's qualities clearly fitted him for the professional ranks, and at the end of hostilities he was readily persuaded to stay on in the Army. He continued to lead his battalion in the Palestine emergency where he was noted for his success in countering terrorist activities. This valuable work earned him appointment as OBE.

After a period in the staff he was back in action again in 1951, this time during the Malayan Emergency when he commanded a battalion of the

Malay Regiment in the operations which culminated in the defeat of the rebel commander Chin Peng. In this command, his natural ability to get on with people of all races and in all walks of life greatly contributed to his effectiveness as a leader.

For the Suez operation of 1956 he was appointed Deputy Commander of the 16th Parachute Brigade, and his long experience of airborne operations enabled him to make a valuable contribution to the meticulous planning and intensive training which went into the campaign. Hewetson was disappointed not to be among those elements which were actually dropped into Suez, but participated in the operation, after arriving with the seaborne forces.

He was offered promotion to Brigadier but decided to return to Cumberland and to teaching English literature at teaching English literature at Cockermouth School, Cockermouth, where his infectious enthusiasm for English literature is remembered by the many pupils who passed through his hands.

He leaves his widow Audrey, and two daughters, as well as a daughter of his first marriage to Mollie Clark, who died in 1938.

JUDGE GERALD SPARROW

Judge Gerald Sparrow, who died on August 22, at the age of 83, was a campaign organizer for the Club of Ten, a mysterious group which in the 1970s mounted a lavish advertising campaign defending the apartheid policies of the South African government in newspapers throughout the world.

At the height of its campaign in this country, in 1976, the group was taking large advertisements, sometimes a full page, in newspapers such as *The Times*, *The Guardian* and *The Observer*, warning the British government and people against what the Club regarded as "Double Talk" and "Double Think", over conditions in South Africa.

Sparrow, who was educated at Sherborne and Trinity Hall, Cambridge before being called to the Bar by the Middle Temple, served as a judge of the International Court in Bangkok, and was legal adviser to the Thai government in the years before the war.

In 1941 he was imprisoned by the Japanese for the duration of the war, and afterwards stayed for twenty years in the Far East where he was involved in business, running night clubs and a string of houses.

He retired to this country where he turned author,

producing a flood of books on subjects ranging from autobiography, through travel to popular legal works, as well as a series on matters such as *The Great Swindlers* and *The Great Assassins*.

His involvement with South Africa began at a time when that country was trying to improve the methods by which it projected its image to the world, through the efforts of its Information Minister, Dr Connie Mulder (later of "Muldergate Scandal" fame), and of his protégé, Dr Eschel Rhoodie.

Sparrow and his Thai wife, Chaiyee, were invited to South Africa as Dr Mulder's guests; as an Asian under the apartheid laws Mrs Sparrow would normally have been classified as "coloured" and barred from facilities and areas reserved for whites. But Dr Mulder arranged honorary white status for her.

On his return to this country to handle the pro-South African campaign which subsequently took place, Sparrow at first remained vague about who was behind the advertising which began appearing in newspapers in America, Australia, Canada, West Germany and Holland, as well as in this country.

MRS JOAN ROBINSON

Mrs Joan Gail Robinson, the writer and illustrator of children's books, died on August 20 at the age of 78.

It was after she had married Richard Robinson and through a teddy-bear belonging to one of their two daughters that she came to write her celebrated stories about Teddy Robinson, the first collection of which appeared in 1953.

These show a mastery of the difficult art of the bed-time story, with their nicely-tuned rhythms of prose and verse enhanced by the author's witty line illustrations and hand-lettered captions.

The Teddy Robinson stories were joined in 1957 by an equally successful sequence about Mary-Mary, the self-assured youngest daughter in a family of five, and ten years later in 1967 Joan Robinson published the first of her stories for older children, *When Marjie Was There*.

This book, and such success-

DR RENATE BURGESS

Dr Renate Burgess, who was curator of paintings, prints and photographs at the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine from 1964 to 1980, died on August 15 at the age of 78.

Her greatest single achievement was her cataloguing of the 12,000 portrait-prints collected by Sir Henry Wellcome. This appeared in 1973 and marked her as the world expert on medical portraiture.

She also worked on British 18th-century portrait-paintings and caricatures.

It was her detective work which led to the identification of two important paintings in the Wellcome collection: Adam Elsheimer's *St Elizabeth Visiting Hospital* (1598) and Joseph Wright of Derby's portrait of his brother, the surgeon Richard Wright (1753).

She was the daughter of a Nobel Prize-winner for chemistry, Dr Friedrich Bergius. She studied art history in Germany before the Second World War in Munich. But the Nazi persecution obliged her to flee and she arrived in London in 1938.

MR BERTIE R. WHITING

Mr B. R. Whiting, who died on August 3 at the age of 64 was an unusual combination of a poet and a man of action.

The son of one of Melbourne's most distinguished solicitors, "Bertie", as he was known to his friends, joined the Australian Army in 1940 at the age of 17, made more than 200 parachute drops, was wounded twice, boxed successfully as a heavyweight, and ended the war as a captain and temporary major.

Transferring to the British Army, he became one of the ADCs to Lord Mountbatten, subsequently serving Sir Frederick Burrows, then Governor of Bengal, and Mr Ronald Casey in a similar capacity.

His writing career began with the *Melbourne Sun*, and he went on to publish a book of poems called *The Little Desert*.

Other poems were published in Rome, where he lived for over 30 years, in a collection called *Winter for Quiet*. He also had one of his plays, *Empress with Tempt*, played at the Royal Court in London.

He leaves a widow, Lorna, sister of Mr Malcolm Fraser, the former Australian Prime Minister.

SIR BASIL LINDSAY-FYNN

Sir Basil Lindsay-Fynn, who died yesterday, at the age of 86, had an active life in business, politics and charitable work. He was a Director of Ward White Group Ltd from 1934 to 1983.

Basil Mortimer Lindsay-Fynn was born on December 22, 1901, and educated at Wesley College, Dublin, and Trinity College, Dublin, before going to the London School of Economics in 1929.

He had already become a chartered accountant in 1924, and in 1929 he formed his own practice, which became known as Smallfield Lindsay-Fynn & Co. He was senior partner until 1947 when he sold the practice.

From the 1930s onwards he was a director of a number of public companies, and brought others to the market. These included Gossard; the Ocean Trust with Sir Edward Beddington Beherens; Associated Weavers; and Newnes Publishing with Sir Frank Newnes and E.K. Cole.

He was also an early asso-

ciate of the Canadian Brewer Eddie Taylor, and merged his own company Webbs of Aberbeeg to form Northern Breweries, subsequently United Breweries, then Charrington United Breweries and finally Bass Charrington.

After the war other companies of which he was chairman included Lintas Industries, John White Footwear (which became Ward White) and Ingersoll Group.

He was an active fundraiser for the Conservative Party, and president of a number of London constituency parties.

His charitable works were legion: he founded and was first chairman of Friends of Malta, GC; he was an active fund-raiser for the Devon Historic Churches Trust; he was chairman of the Crown Paving Estate Commission for 23 years until 1981, and was a Governor of The Dockland settlements for many years, to name but a few.

He leaves his widow, Audrey, two sons and a daughter.

MR JOHN SMYTH

Mr John Smyth, OBE, who has died aged 76, had a distinguished career in the school dental service.

He was appointed to Gloucestershire as Principal School Dental Officer in 1948. This coincided with the start of the National Health Service which caused a shortage of

staff in the school dental service.

He formed a dental health education team led by one of the first dental health education officers to be appointed in this country.

He was on several local and national dental committees

Girobank plc Base Rate

Girobank announces that with effect from close of business on 25 August 1988 its Base Rate was increased from 11% to 12% per annum.

Reg Office: 10 Milk Street London EC2V 8JH
Reg No: 1950000



The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

Base Rate

The Royal Bank of Scotland announces that with effect from close of business on 25 August 1988 its Base Rate for advances will be increased from 11% to 12% per annum.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 84 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EC2 2TL. Registered in Scotland No. 90012.

هكرامان الحظير

This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Saturday section by a preview of the week ahead. Items for inclusion should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

BOOKING KEY
★ Seats available
★ Return only
(D) Access for disabled

THEATRE LONDON

★ **BLOOD BROTHERS:** Wally Russell's sentimental musical: separated twins destroyed by the English class system; kids die as their mother.
Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.45pm, Thurs 7.30-9pm, Sat 4-7pm. £25-£16.50.

★ **BUSMAN'S HONEYMOON:** Dorothy L. Sayers's own adaptation of her thriller, with husband-and-wife team Edward Petherbridge and Emily Richard as the newly married Lord and Lady Peter Winsley. Last week of the tour.
Lyric Theatre, King Street W6 (01-741 2311). Tube: Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, Wed 7.30pm and Sat 2.30pm. £25-£10.

★ **BUSBY D'AMBOISE:** David Threlfall plays the flamboyant hero in Chapman's Jacobean tragedy set in the French court of Henri III.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (01-828 7616). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm; Mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 4pm. £24-£14.

★ **DANGEROUS OBSESSION:** Better-than-average revenge thriller. Poetically smiting Dunsdale London drags Jeremy Bulloch and Hilary Tindall over the coals. Last week.
Fortune Theatre, Russell Street WC2 (01-836 2238). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Fri 8-10.05pm, Sat 8-10.35pm, Wed 3-5.05pm and Sat 3-5.30pm. £5-£13.50.

★ **EASY VIRTUE:** Attractive revival of Noel Coward 1926 with Jane Farrow scandalizing her teenage husband's faithful county folk.
Garrick Theatre, Charing Cross Road WC2 (01-578 5177). Tube: Leicester Square. Mon-Fri 8.10-10.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.30pm, Mats Tues 3-5.15pm and Sat 5-7.15pm. £7.50-£12.50.

★ **MARCEL MARCEAU:** Back with his troupe for a three-week season. Sadder's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (01-278 8919). Tube: Angel. Mon-Sat 7.30-9.30pm, Weds Sat and Thurs Sat 1.20-4.30pm, £25-£13.50.

★ **POPPY:** Revised version of the Peter Nichols/Monty Norman satirical musical savaging Britain's role in the Chinese Opium Wars.
Half Moon Theatre, 213 Mile End Road, E1 (01-780 4000). Tube: Stepney Green. Previews until Aug 29 8pm. Opens Aug 30, 8pm. Then Mon-Sat 8pm. Previews £5.50, from Aug 30, £5.50-£25.50.

★ **THE RECRUITING OFFICER:** Jim Broadbent as rascally Sgt Kite in a strongly cast production of Farquhar's tough comedy.
Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (01-730 1745, or 01-240 8200). Tube: Sloane Square. Mon-Sat 8-10.30pm, Thurs-Sat 8-10.30pm. £25-£12.

★ **STOP IN THE NAME OF LOVE:** Nostalgic musical: back to the Sixties with the fabulous Singletree sporting beehive hair-dos, who sing it like it was.
Pleasance Theatre, Denman St, W1 (01-867 1115). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Thur 8-10pm, Fri and Sat 8.30-8.30pm and 9-11pm, £25-£12.50.

★ **ZIEGFELD:** Topical stars in the £3 million show due to close in October.
London Palladium, 8 Argyll Street, W1 (01-437 7373). Tube: Oxford Circus. Mon-Sat 7.30-10.15pm, Weds and Sat 2.45-5.30pm. £25-£21.

★ **LONG RUNNERS:** ★ And Then There Were None Strand Theatre (01-836 2600). ★ Beyond Reasonable Doubt Queen's Theatre (01-734 1166). ★ Cats: New London Theatre (01-405 0072, or 01-404 4073). ★ Follies: Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5899). ★ 42nd Street: Drury Lane Theatre (01-836 8108/9). ★ Miss Marmalade: Savoy Theatre (01-836 8111). ★ The Boy in the Bush: Adelphi Theatre (01-404 7913/4). ★ Les Femmes d'Alger: Palace Theatre (01-434 0909). ★ The Mousetrap: St Martin's Theatre (01-836 1443). ★ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's Theatre (01-836 2944). ★ Run For Your Wife: Criterion Theatre (01-590 3216). ★ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (01-828 8665).

★ **OUT OF TOWN**
★ **CHILTERNHAM:** ★ Harvey: Elwood P. Dowd and his invisible giant rabbit in revival of popular comedy.
Savoy Theatre, Regent Street (0242 572573). Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, £4-8.50.

★ **PLYMOUTH:** ★ Brigadoon: The first and last of the first Broadway hit, romance and magic 'mid the Scottish mists.
Theatre Royal, Royal Parade (0752 668282). Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8pm, mat Thurs 2.30pm, Sat 4pm. £25-£10.

★ **Also on national release**
★ **Advance booking possible**
★ **BEETLEJUICE:** (15) Michael Keaton steals the show as a ghost in supernatural comedy. Tim Burton directed (82 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-836 9772). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.
Cannon Haymarket (01-836 1527). Progs 1.20, 3.40, 6.00, 8.20.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-836 0310). Progs 1.30, 3.55, 6.15, 8.40.

★ **COMING TO AMERICA (15):** Eddie Murphy as a pampered foreign prince who comes to America to select his own bride, a botched comedy vehicle with a touch of sweetness; directed by John Landis. (116 min).
Cannon Baker Street (01-836 9772). Progs 2.10, 5.30, 8.15.
Cannon Fulham Road (01-370 2636). Progs 2.10, 5.30, 8.15.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-836 0310). Progs 1.05, 3.25, 5.55, 8.25.
Cannon Shaftesbury Theatre (01-379 5899). Progs 1.05, 3.25, 5.55, 8.25.
Cannon Strand (01-836 0510). Progs 1.05, 3.25, 5.55, 8.25.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (01-379 5899). Progs 1.05, 3.25, 5.55, 8.25.
Cannon Victoria (01-836 0510). Progs 1.05, 3.25, 5.55, 8.25.

★ **THE COUCH TRIP:** Dan Aykroyd plays an anarchy priest who escapes, impersonates a psychiatrist, takes over a radio phone-in show and becomes a media celebrity (98 min).
Odion Kensington (01-802 8644). Prog 1.05, 3.25, 5.55, 8.25.
Odion Swiss Cottage (01-722 6906). Progs 1.00, 3.10, 5.20, 8.15.
Odion West End (01-830 5252). Progs 1.25, 3.45, 6.00, 8.40.

★ **GROCCOLINE DUNDIE II (PG):** Disappointingly flat sequel to the runaway Aussie hit, with Paul Hogan reprising his role as the king of the Outback (112 min).
Odion Kensington (01-802 8644). Progs 1.10, 3.30, 5.50, 8.10.

★ **SHAG (18):** Frivolous film, named after an American dance craze with Bridget Fonda, Phoebe Cates, Page Hannah and a youthful cast as boys and girls entering a dance contest in the 1950s (100 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.35, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.
Cannon Haymarket (01-836 1527). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-836 0310). Progs 1.15, 3.40, 6.05, 8.30.
Odion Kensington (01-802 8644). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.

★ **VICE VERSA (PG):** Lively variation on F. Anstey's comic fable, with Judge Reinhold as the workaholic department store executive who escapes to his young son (Fred Savage). Directed by Brian Gilbert (88 min).
Odion Leicester Square (01-930 6111). Progs 1.10, 3.40, 6.10, 8.40.

★ **WINGS OF DESIRE (15):** Wim Wenders's epic tale of two angels watching over the citizens of Berlin (127 min).
Metro (01-437 0757). Progs 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.

★ **UNITED STATES:**
1 (-) Nightmares on Elm Street
2 (1) Young Guns
3 (1) Die Hard
4 (1) A Fish Called Wanda
5 (1) Cocktail
6 (1) The Untouchables
7 (-) Married to the Mob
8 (1) Tucker: The Man and His Dream
9 (7) Coming to America
10 (8) Midnight Run
Supplied by: Exhibitor Relations Co Inc/Screen International

★ **VIDEO RENTALS:**
1 Big Foot and the Hendersons
2 Masters of the Universe
3 Inner Space
4 Dry Dancin'
5 Flight of the Navigator
Supplied by: Video Business

★ **OUTSIDE LONDON:**
1 Coming to America
2 The Jungle Book
3 Groccoline Dundie II
4 Vice Versa
5 Police Academy V
Supplied by: Screen International



Rocking on at Reading

Some old choices mark the line-up of this year's Reading Festival, once known as the National Festival of Jazz, but now, in its 26th year, an established Mecca for the denim-and-leather rock'n'roll crowd. It is difficult to credit either Starship (without Grace Slick) or Squeeze with the appeal or musical muscle to justify their status as headliners on Saturday and Sunday respectively. However, there is a particularly strong bill overall on Sunday, including Hothouse Flowers, the Godfathers, and the Wonderstuff, who may well be justifying a higher billing now that their album, *The Eight Legged Groove Machine*, has reached the Top 20. The Reading Festival, Rickfield Avenue, Reading, starts at 2pm today, continuing tomorrow and Sunday from noon. Three-day ticket £35; one-day ticket £14.50-£15. Credit card: 01-741 8989/379 4444. Festival information: 0932 566777. David Sinclair

★ **CONCERTS MORNING**
★ **SHOSTAKOVICH ENDS:** The Shostakovich Concerto winds up its complete series of Shostakovich Quartets by playing Nos 14 and 15. Queen's Hall, Edinburgh (031 225 5766), 11am, £24-£10.

★ **HAIRSPRAY (PG):** Natty comedy from director John Waters, America's high priest of bad taste, poking fun at the social habits of Baltimore teenagers in 1962 (88 min).
Cannon Chelsea (01-352 5096). Progs 1.35, 3.35, 5.35, 7.35, 9.40.
Cannon Haymarket (01-836 1527). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.
Cannon Oxford Street (01-836 0310). Progs 1.15, 3.40, 6.05, 8.30.
Odion Kensington (01-802 8644). Progs 1.40, 4.00, 6.20, 8.40.

★ **THE JUNGLE BOOK (U):** Revival of the joyous Disney cartoon based on Kipling's stories, with knockabout visual gags and simple but effective animation (78 min).
Cannon Oxford Street (01-836 0310). Progs 1.15, 3.05, 5.00, 6.50.
Odion Kensington (01-822 8644). Progs 1.25, 3.20, 4.35, 6.40, 8.45.
Odion Leicester Square (01-930 6111). Progs 1.20, 3.45, 6.10, 8.35.
Odion Swiss Cottage (01-722 6906). Progs 1.10, 3.10, 5.30, 8.00.
Odion West End (01-830 5252). Progs 1.10, 3.30, 5.55, 8.45, 8.40.

★ **TIME THERE WAS:** The untimely "Feeling for Music" series continues with Jeffrey Tate conducting the ECO in Britten's *A Time There Was* (Sinfonia Divertimenti (Piano, Piano) and Schubert's youthful Symphony No 2. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-828 5181, or 01-828 8600), 7.45pm, £24-£10.

★ **OLYMPIA:** Arthur Oldham conducts the Edinburgh Festival Chorus in his own *Praise of the Virgin*, choruses by Schubert, Brahms, and Bruckner's E minor Mass. Underfield, Lothian Rd, Edinburgh (031 225 5757), 8pm, £5.

★ **LATE LIEBER:** Schubert Lieber, dated 1825-26 are heard from Stephen Varcoe, baritone, with Graham Johnson at the piano. Queen Elizabeth Hall, 10pm, admission free to those who attended the 7.45pm. Queen Elizabeth Hall Concert.

★ **LA GATTA CENERENTOLA:** A Neapolitan Cinderella presented by The Mancinella Theatre of Naples. King's Theatre, Edinburgh (031 225 5757, 7.30pm, £24-£12.50).

★ **DOM GIOVANNI:** British Youth Opera in Peter Knapp's production of Mozart. Tyne Opera House, Newcastle (091 232 0899), 8pm, £23-£7.

★ **LA GATTA CENERENTOLA:** A Neapolitan Cinderella presented by The Mancinella Theatre of Naples. King's Theatre, Edinburgh (031 225 5757, 7.30pm, £24-£12.50).

★ **DANCE**
★ **GISELLE:** Yoko Morishita stars in the Matsuyama Ballet's production from Tokyo. Playhouse, Greenside Place, Edinburgh (031-225 5756) 7.30-8.30pm £3.50-£11

★ **ADAM AND EVE:** Comic strip version of their story for Moscow Classical Ballet, in a programme mainly of bravura display dances. Hippodrome, Hurst Street, Birmingham (021-622 7846) 7.30-10.30pm £5.50-£25.

★ **ROCK**
★ **PETER GABRIEL:** The man who almost lost his shirt promoting the first WOMAD festival in 1982 makes an appearance on Sunday at the second leg of this year's festival, which as well as world music giants like Pakistan's Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, Mali's Ali Farka Toure and the "boyant Bulgarian" of the two Papasos Wedding Orchestra, also features the more familiar Western sounds of the Proclaimers, Pere Ubu and the Tachibana Sound System. Cornhill Coliseum, Canyon Bay, St Austell (07261 4004) 3pm, for three days. Weekend ticket £24; Sunday £10.

★ **MICHAEL JACKSON:** More Wacko. Wembley Stadium, Empire Way, Middlesex (01-803 8444) gates 4.30pm, £17.50, for two nights.

★ **THE LILAC TIME:** Folk-rock harmony group which provides the latest setting for the elliptical talent of Stephen Tin Tin Duffy. Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W6 (01-748 3554) 7.30pm, £5.

★ **THE FOUR BROTHERS:** British debut for Zimbabwean group, much championed by the Peel/Kershaw roots radio mags. Africa Centre, 38 King Street, London WC2 (01-836 1873) 9pm, £5.

★ **JAZZ**
★ **GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA:** The customary his, including "In The Mood", directed by Ray McVay. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (01-638 8881) 7.45pm, £5-£10.50.

★ **TOMMY SMITH:** Though he has yet to find his own voice, the young Scottish tenor is a fine prospect for the 1990s. First of two nights. Round Midnight, Queen's Hall, Clark Street, Edinburgh (031 668 2019), 7.15pm, £5 unreserved.

★ **FAREWELL BALL:** A marathon event with artists including the Concord All Stars, Red Rodney and the Jazz Festival All Stars. McEwens Edinburgh International Jazz Festival, Jazz Pavilion, Newswank Sports Centre, London Road (031 551 1842) 9pm-3am, £10.

★ **THE EVERGREEN CHIEF:** Richard (above) adds a pop touch to the Greenbelt Arts Festival, which starts today (see Other Events). The four-day festival has been staged every August bank holiday weekend for 15 years as a celebration of Christian beliefs. Also on the bill are Precious Wilson and Amy Grant. As well as music, dance and theatre, there will be seminars, celebrity speakers and children's entertainment. The festival is being held at Castle Ashby Park, Northamptonshire.

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**How to Hate Yourself into
That Air** (s) 10.55 Weather
10.30 The World Tonight
11.15 The Financial World Tonight
11.30 Aspects Of The Fringe:
Hunter and Docherty with a
selection of the best cabaret
and comedy at the 1988
Edinburgh Fringe Festival (s)
12.00 News 12.30 Weather
12.33 Shipping Forecast
**VHF as above except: 1.58-
2.00pm Listening Corner (s)**
5.50-5.56 PM (continued)

ENGINEERS: Radio 1: 1053kHz/288m; 1099kHz/276m; VHF-88-90.2
kHz; 893kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; VHF-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/
VHF-90-92.5. Radio 4: 1968kHz/1515m; VHF-92-95. LBC: 1152kHz/
IF 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8. BBC Radio London:

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Offices sale lifts profit at Wates City to £24m

Wates City of London Properties, the developer, announced a record six-fold rise in pre-tax profits to £24.6 million for the six months ended June. But this includes an exceptional £20.34 million from the sale of a 42,600 sq ft office building in Moorgate, City of London, to Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale, the West German bank, in February.

Although rental income rose from £4.52 million to £6.04 million, pre-tax profits before the exceptional item fell from £4.34 million to £4.28 million, due to an interest charge of £645,000. Earnings per share increased from 2.20p to 13.06p. The interim dividend stays at 0.77p a share.

Placing by WH Smith

WH Smith Group has announced details of the vendor placing for its 26.3 million takeover bid for Satec, a commercial stationery supplier. Cazenove, the stockbroker has, within the terms of the agreement, placed 1.09 million WH Smith "A" shares out of a total to be placed of 2.4 million on behalf of the vendors.

LeisureTime in cash buy

LeisureTime International, the hotel group taken over by the Jivraj family this year, has paid £12.25 million cash for two nursing homes in Blackburn, Lancashire. The acquisition is through the company's Country Care Homes subsidiary. The two homes, the Hawthurst and the Whitehall, have 53 registered beds between them.

Dunton builds profit

Dunton Group, the brick maker and property developer quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, raised pre-tax profits in the year to end-May from £489,000 to £774,881, on sales up from £2.1 million to £3.9 million. An increase in associated companies' contribution from £65,449 to £138,917 was one reason for the rise.

A final dividend of 0.5p is declared, making a total of 0.76p for the year, up from 0.5p in 1986-87. Fully diluted earnings per share increased from 1.53p to 2.71p. Mr Alan Sore, the chairman, explained that the results were bolstered by the company's growing involvement in residential and property development. "Subject to no unforeseen events, the group will have another excellent year in 1989," Mr Sore said.

Renaissance soars 42%

Renaissance Holdings, the investment trust which came to the market last year, increased pre-tax earnings by 42 per cent, to £244,000 in the six months to June. Net assets went up from £6.85 million to £7.84 million. Earnings per share increased from 1.70p to 2.16p. The company is paying an interim dividend of 1.2p.

Gaynor bid acceptances

The Showcroft family, which launched a £6.2 million bid for Gaynor, the USM-quoted plastic carrier bag group, in July, has received acceptances for 52.91 per cent of Gaynor's share capital, including the Ferster family's 50.16 per cent controlling stake. The offer, declared unconditional on August 11, remains open until September 7.

Raine lifts holding

Raine Industries has bought a further 200,000 shares in Ruberoid, taking its stake to 3.4 million shares or 6.6 per cent. Raine, a fast-growing construction group, is bidding £125 million for Ruberoid, a roofing materials company, on the basis of two Raine shares and 60p cash for every Ruberoid share. The offer valued Ruberoid's shares at 246p. There is a cash alternative of 254p. Raine's offer, which closes on September 14, has been declared final. Ruberoid's shares remained unchanged at 254p.

This week Raine was asked by the Takeover Panel to clarify the interpretation given to a chart in its final offer document referring to the relative share price performances of the companies. This follows the Panel's request to Ruberoid to clarify its claims for a similar share price chart.

UEI expands with \$20m takeover

By Martin Waller

UEI, the Berkshire high technology group, has added to its scientific and medical equipment division with the agreed purchase, for about \$20 million (£11.9 million) of The Nucleus, a United States company which makes radiation detectors.

Mr Jeff Harrison, finance director of UEI, which is based in Newbury, said the world market for nuclear instrumentation, estimated at \$200 million, is growing rapidly.

The Nucleus is based in Tennessee, an important centre for the industry in the US. Its directors approached UEI to suggest the acquisition.

The company is involved in the refinement of germanium, an element used as a semiconductor in radiation detection equipment. Some 25 per cent of The Nucleus's sales come from this activity, and there are opportunities for

UEI's Link Analytical subsidiary to obtain its supplies of the element from the company.

Link will also be able to use The Nucleus's sales network in the US and around the world for its own products, and the acquisition will allow collaboration in research and development - Link has recently developed a range of X-ray spectrometers utilizing germanium detectors.

The vendors are taking 950,000 new UEI shares, issued at 412p, and £13.6 million in cash. Mr David Coffey and Mr Jim Mougianis, the founders and principal directors of The Nucleus, have agreed to stay with the business for at least three years.

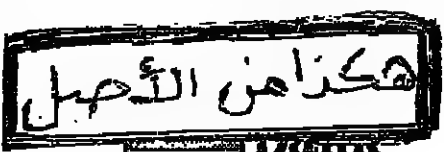
The cash will come from the company's existing resources, and will push gearing up to about the 10 per cent level. UEI was in credit at its January 31 financial year end.

Lloyds Bank Base Rate.

Lloyds Bank Plc has increased its Base Rate from 11 per cent to 12 per cent p.a. with effect from Thursday 25 August 1988.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to Lloyds Bank Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

The change in Base Rate will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branch of The National Bank of New Zealand Limited.



THE THOROUGHbred BANK.

Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS.

Ladbroke hits jackpot with Hilton

Every now and again, a betting man will hit the jackpot. It does not happen to all of them, and it does not happen particularly often, but it is what keeps the punters going, and what keeps the bookmakers in business.

Ladbroke Group is a betting company, and the biggest bet it placed was the purchase of Hilton International for £645 million last September. The market was enthusiastic about the deal at the time, even if the effect was somewhat marred by the accompanying rights issue. No sooner was it announced than the market went into the free-fall of the October crash, leaving three-quarters with the underwriters.

Only now are investors waking up to the fact that Hilton is Ladbroke's jackpot. It is Hilton which lies behind yesterday's share price performance, which saw Ladbroke shares put on 5p to 452p on a day when the market was down 39 points.

Admittedly, the results were outstandingly good. At £118 million, they were 14 per cent above the best analysts' estimates. But we have grown used to companies reporting record results and being rewarded with the sight of their shares drifting lower, as bored market makers look for the next takeover rumour.

Now the calculators are out, adding up what the Hilton hotels group must be worth, given the £1.5 billion Grand

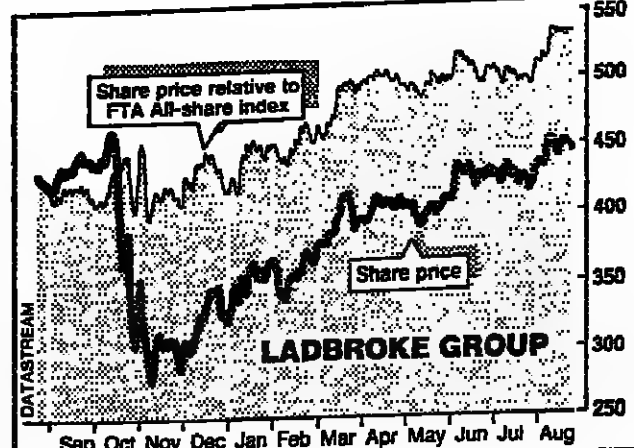
Metropolitan is seeking for its Inter-Continental hotels.

When Ladbroke bought Hilton, it had 92 hotels, of which 44 were owned or leased and the rest managed. None was franchised, the least profitable method of running an hotel. Inter-Continental, on the other hand, has 100 hotels, of which 33 are owned or leased, but 18 of which are franchised.

Looking at the Hilton group today, with the addition of the Ladbroke chain re-branded as Hilton Nationals, it has 138 hotels, with a significantly better ownership structure than Inter-Continental. So either GrandMet is asking too much for Inter-Continental or the Hilton group is worth around £2 billion.

Since acquiring Hilton, Ladbroke has been concentrating on making the assets sweat by cutting costs and improving efficiency and service. This process is continuing, but the next stage will be to tackle occupancy rates, which Ladbroke admits are unsatisfactory. It will also be increasing tariffs, and profits are expected to double from \$100 million (£60 million) this year for the international hotels to \$200 million in three years' time and \$300 million after five years.

Analysts are looking for Ladbroke to make pre-tax profits of £240 million in the full year, giving a prospective multiple of a shade more than



12. The prospective gross yield is 5 per cent and the shares look an attractive long-term proposition.

Emess

Emess is not hiding its light under a bushel, despite its thwarted £74 million bid for Holophone, the French company, this summer. The episode cost Emess £500,000 but has not dimmed its ambitions to compete aggressively on the Continent.

Although Emess's business is roughly divided between commercial and decorative lighting, it steers clear of the commodity products preferred by larger operators. The commercial market is more profitable but it allows Emess less scope to develop innovative products.

This ability to focus on a fast changing market and produce a wide range of products is one of the group's strengths. The new range of emergency lighting products is a good example of Emess's innovative approach.

The 78 per cent increase in half-time profits masked organic growth of 28 per cent. Acquisitions are important to the company - it has made at least two a year for the past eight years - but so is the underlying business.

Emess is seeking acquisitions on the Continent and in the Pacific Basin.

Now, with a 57 per cent holding in Brillantleuchten, the West German company - lifted this week from a 25 per cent stake - there are opportunities to develop a worthwhile European business.

Ericsson up 55% at half-time

By Wolfgang Münch

Ericsson, the Swedish telecommunications group, achieved a 55 per cent increase in pre-tax profit from SKr409 million to SKr633 million (£59 million) in the six months to June.

This was despite a decline in net sales from SKr14.7 billion to SKr13.6 billion. Earnings per share rose from SKr8.57 to SKr10. The figures were called "a fantastic result" by the City.

Telecommunications equipment was the best performing division, the company said, although no divisional breakdowns were given.

The group recently underwent some restructuring in order to concentrate more on telecommunications. It sold its computer, banking and business systems division to Nokia, the Finnish electronics company.

In Britain, Ericsson owns a controlling stake in Thorn Ericsson, the telecommunications consortium. Earlier this year, it bought the 51 per cent stake held by Thorn EMI for a sum estimated to be between £50 million and £70 million. Thorn Ericsson supplies the System Y digital telephone exchanges.

GEC joins list of potential buyers for Short Brothers

By Robert Rodwell

GEC has become the third company to be associated with the Government's intended privatization of Short Brothers after confirming it had "registered its interest" in the possibility of acquiring the Belfast aerospace group.

Both Boeing and Fokker, the Dutch aircraft manufacturer, have said they are conducting separate feasibility studies into taking over Short.

GEC's principal interest lies in Short's successful missile division, which would fill a gap in the existing capabilities of the GEC-Marconi defence systems. From Whitehall's point of view, a GEC takeover would maintain competition with British Aerospace in guided weapon procurement from home industry.

GEC is, however, understood to have accepted the Government's wish - supported by the Shorts management and the Ulster community - that the company be sold as a single integrated design, development and production facility. The alternative would be to split it into its three main divisions and sell the parts to separate buyers.



Interest in missile division: Lord Prior, chairman of GEC

Although ministers are not ruling out a break-up sale as a last resort, Mr Peter Viggers, the NIO Industry Minister, has been taken to task for suggesting such a sale could take place.

He has been forced to concede to Shorts' board, and its financial adviser, Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the responsibility for preparing the prospectus for the sale of the company as a single entity.

This prospectus is not expected for some months and GEC is content to wait until then before coming forward with proposals.

Lord Prior, the GEC chairman, knows more than most the vital importance to Shorts and the Northern Ireland economy, of retaining the company as an integrated whole - as Mr James Prior he was the last NI Secretary of State before retiring from the Government in 1985.

Boeing is due to give the conclusions of its feasibility study next month and is thought unlikely to propose a direct purchase, providing it is satisfied Shorts will remain a vital and well-respected subcontractor on several of its airline programmes.

Shorts' senior executives are willing to take up to 25 per cent of the company in a partial management buyout.

The prospect now emerging is of a consortium, comprising GEC and the existing Shorts management with perhaps Fokker and/or Boeing as partners, taking over the company, which would retain its identity and remain based in Belfast.

Creighton cash call for £3.1m

By Our City Staff

Creighton Laboratories, the natural cosmetics maker, is raising £3.1 million through a one-for-four rights issue to wipe out borrowings and pay for future expansion.

It is the company's first fund-raising exercise since it joined the USM almost two years ago.

Mr Richard Collard, the chairman, said the expansion of the market for additive-free cosmetics had pushed sales ahead by 64 per cent and had meant heavy investment at Creighton's factory in Storrington, Sussex.

This had increased gearing to 60 per cent by the March 31 year-end, a figure destined to increase as spending continued on plant, machinery and property.

The call will also widen the company's shareholder base.

Peachey portfolio 'valued at £356m'

By Our City Staff

Peachey Property Corporation, in its second defence document against the £265 million cash bid from Wereldhave, the Netherlands group, yesterday surprised the City with a 6.9 per cent rise in the value of its property portfolio in just two months.

The group's properties are now worth £356.3 million, giving a net asset value of 676p, up from 629p just two months ago. This compares with Wereldhave's cash offer of 612p.

The asset figure is substantially above that which analysts had been expecting and takes into account £21.1 million of current developments at cost. This could add another 20p or so to the asset value if they were valued as developed, the analysts say.

But Mr John Brown, the Peachey managing director,

said there would be no further revaluations during the takeover bid, which has its first closing date on September 8.

He denied analysts' suggestions that the improvement in the portfolio's value came mainly from recent large rises in rents in the West End of London. About £10 million of the increase came from these, against £11.5 million from elsewhere, with the "triple effect" benefiting areas such as the North-east in particular.

Rent reviews on existing properties should increase gross rents by £9.5 million by June 1993, Peachey adds.

Wereldhave immediately questioned whether the sharp rise shown in the latest valuation could be sustained "against the background of cyclical property markets, rising interest rates and other market uncertainties."

Swiss imports of SA diamonds soar

Zurich (Reuters) - South African diamond exports to Switzerland have mysteriously soared, and Bermuda, although it is not a producer, has emerged as an important diamond trading nation, official Swiss figures show.

Most of the rough gems sent to Switzerland go to the Diamond Trading Company (DTC), a Lucerne-based sales affiliate of the London-based Central Selling Organisation (CSO) of South Africa's De Beers Consolidated Mines.

DTC sorts the diamonds and re-exports them for cutting and polishing in other countries, Israel in particular.

Swiss federal customs office statistics show that the value of rough diamonds imported from South Africa rose from SwFr1.7 million (£630,000) in 1986 to SwFr188.6 million in 1987 and SwFr233.9 million in the first half of this year. The figures also show a fall

in diamond imports from Britain - from SwFr1.91 billion in 1986 to SwFr1.09 billion in 1987.

They also show the emergence of Bermuda as a diamond supplier for the first time in 1987.

The island supplied diamonds worth SwFr602.3 million to Switzerland last year. In the first half of 1988, a further SwFr428.5 million worth were shipped.

A customs office spokesman said the true origin of the Bermudian diamonds was unknown. The CSO in London said it had "no comment".

Mr Christoph Kerez, president of the Swiss Association of Precious Stones Dealers, said: "The diamonds from Bermuda could originate in South Africa, the Soviet Union, or anywhere. There must be a financial or political reason for choosing Bermuda. Maybe it's tax."

Hanson 'ready to spend again'

By Our City Staff

Speculation is mounting that Hanson, the housebricks-to-cigarettes conglomerate, is preparing to enter the takeover arena again, as the group continues to pile up the cash. But it may be wise not to expect any move until towards the end of the year.

The recent sales of a big chunk of the Kiddie business in the US, and HP Foods and Lea & Perrins in Britain, have left the group with a £1.1 billion cash mountain.

The remaining activities continue to outperform, as seen by the 17.1 per cent increase in the nine-month pre-tax profits reported this week.

Blue Circle and Sears remain firm favourites as bid targets, should Lord Hanson swoop in Britain, but some observers believe the next move will be in the US.

British profits still account for 60 per cent of the whole, and Lord Hanson is thought always to have preferred to keep the two sides of the Atlantic in balance.

With the Endicott footwear operations still up for sale - and reports that SCM Chemicals may be floated off - the North American contribution may be beginning to look somewhat thinner.

But Lord Hanson and Sir Gordon White, who runs the US operations, would probably prefer to know the next occupant of the White House before committing themselves to a bid.

Meanwhile, Hanson is right to remain proud of an organic growth rate of more than 13 per cent, so often has it been criticized in the past.

The nine-month figures showed pre-tax profits at a record £605 million, against £517 million, and earnings per share of 11.1p against 9.8p. The three months to end-June 30 produced pre-tax profits of £249 million (against £205 million), on a turnover up from £1.46 billion to £1.86 billion.

The results included an eight-month contribution from the Kiddie acquisition, a full nine months from Kaiser, against a six-month contribution last time, and a full contribution from HP Foods and Lea & Perrins, sold at the beginning of July.

Distributor to buy US firm

American Distributors is buying Modern Tobacco Industries, a small tobacco manufacturer and distributor operating from Port Chester, New York, for \$2.85 million (£1.68 million) in cash.

A further \$1.9 million will be paid for stock valued at \$3.2 million. The company said the acquisition will be financed internally.

American will enter into a three-year service contract with the vendors. In the year to October 1987, Modern Tobacco achieved pre-tax profits of \$1.6 million.

Mentor Corporation
Santa Barbara, California, 1988 Annual Report, including accounts and directors' statement, may be obtained, without charge, during normal business hours, at the office of:
J. Henry Schneider Wagg & Co. Limited
120 Cheapside
London, EC2V 6DS.

News Corp rises to £225m for seventh year of record profit

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Higher profits from newspaper and magazine publishing in Britain and Australia helped The News Corporation, the international media group led by Rupert Murdoch, to increase its net profits after tax by 27 per cent to £225 million (£225 million) in the year to end-June.

The seventh consecutive record result was boosted by acquisitions in Australia and by profits from foreign exchange trading.

The dividend rises from seven to nine cents per share of £1.28 to £1.5 a share.

Turnover rose by 13.2 per cent to £2.6 billion, of which about 40 per cent was contributed by the US operations and about 30 per cent each from Britain, and Australia and the Pacific Basin.

Trading profits rose by 21.6 per cent to £103 million, Australian and Far East opera-

tions doubled their contribution to £240 million, due to the acquisitions of the Melbourne Herald group and full control of the *South China Morning Post*.

British trading profits rose by 11.8 per cent to £376.1 million. The newspaper division had a successful year. There were also increased profits from Townsend Hook, the paper manufacturer.

During the year, the group placed the largest-ever order for four-colour printing presses, which are scheduled to be fully installed by 1992 in Britain and Australia.

It also created "a more effective competitive distribution system" for the British newspapers, bought a 20 per cent shareholding in Pearson, the publishing conglomerate, and announced expansion plans for the Sky satellite television network in Britain and the rest of Europe.

The group's British subsidiary, News International, which owns *The Times* and *Today* during the year, raised operating profits by 13 per cent from £133 million to £150 million, on turnover up 18 per cent to £686 million. The profit rise is after accounting for losses at Sky Television (significantly reduced from the previous year's £10 million) and Today.

But a jump in net interest charges from £21 million to £62 million knocked pre-tax profits down from £111 million to £88 million. The higher interest charges were partly paid for Pearson shares and partly for new borrowing for group operational requirements.

A successful launch of the Twentieth Century Fox film *Big in the final quarter*, plus other film successes, helped restore The News Corporation's US trading profits,

which rose by 4.2 per cent to £413.4 million. Profits benefited from the sale of the *New York Post*.

Fox Television also had a better fourth quarter but results were still down on the year.

Trading profits include £86 million in gains from foreign exchange trading, compared with £51.5 million in 1987-88.

The figures exclude extraordinary start-up and termination costs of £137 million, mainly the cost of setting up the network system for Fox Television. But the group says it is "confidently pursuing its goal of creating a fourth television service in the United States".

This month the group also agreed to buy the Annenberg family's Triangle Publications in the US for £1.8 billion. Triangle publishes the world's largest selling magazine, *TV*

Guide. It will make The News Corporation the largest publisher of consumer magazines in the US with annual sales of more than 1 billion copies and will strengthen the group's distribution system. It will be paid for in part by disposals of low-yielding assets.

A rise in group interest charges from £390 million to £579 million trimmed The News Corporation's pre-tax profits to £576 million, a rise of just 4.3 per cent, despite increased contributions from Ansett Transport Industries, Harper & Row and William Collins, the main associate companies.

The higher interest charges were partly payable on loans raised to repay preference shares financing the purchase of Twentieth Century Fox and are offset by a reduction in after-tax payments to outside shareholders from £105 million to £88 million.

COMMENT

California dreaming becomes a reality

BAT's Californian coup in landing one of America's most highly regarded insurance companies is also a personal triumph for chairman Patrick Sheehy. As befits a former Irish Guards officer, he led from the front during the delicate and difficult final stages of the bid and managed not merely to wring agreement from the Farmers board. He also won its support, a not inconsiderable task in the light of the seven months of trench warfare when it seemed BAT was getting nowhere. Mr Sheehy, aged 58 a week today, can be forgiven if he celebrates his birthday a little more expansively than usual.

For the co-operation of Farmers' management is vital if BAT is to reap full value from its £3.1 billion investment. Farmers is a unique animal in the insurance world with a structure quite unlike any of our own leading insurance groups. Its odd construction is as American as blueberry pie but highly attractive to insurance men whose lives are regularly blighted by the vicious ups and downs of the underwriting cycles

which we think of as endemic.

Since he became chairman of BAT in 1982, Mr Sheehy has identified himself closely with the group's push into financial services through Allied Dunbar and Eagle Star. The Farmers acquisition further dilutes BAT's heavy dependence on tobacco profits and lifts the more highly rated portion of financial services profits from about 18 per cent of group profits to perhaps a third. BAT's traditionally lowly rated shares should soon reap the benefits.

Mr Sheehy's patient campaign can hardly be faulted. While most eyes were on the lawsuits over the rulings of the state insurance commissioners who have to approve the deal, Mr Sheehy's oft declared willingness to raise his terms in exchange for Farmers' backing did the trick in the markets. When he delivered the final coup, a much higher bid open for 10 days only, the arbitrageurs who invested for a short-term profit were calling the shots on Wall Street. Further resistance by Farmers' management would have led to conflict with their own stockholders.

Rates must take the strain

One day we will understand the Chancellor. When he criticized the teenage scribbles for predicting £10 billion or £12 billion current account deficits this year, was it because they were being too optimistic? And when he set a 20 per cent target in the Budget, was he talking about base rates and not the basic rate of income tax?

More seriously, the decision to go for the full point on rates yesterday in response to an awful set of trade figures was the right one. But one question remains. Will it be enough?

The Chancellor has firmly ruled out a mini-Budget and the Treasury view on credit controls is that they would be both inefficient and distorting. Until there is a change of view on either of these matters, interest rates have to take the strain.

The Bank of England, in raising its dealing rate on Band 1 bills by 1 per cent, with progressive 1/8 point reductions in the size of the increase in Bands 2, 3 and 4, has established a structure which implies steady base rates stretching out into the indefinite future. The Chancellor gave warning of 12 per cent rates being around for some time to come.

This would seem to rule out any early reduction in rates, even during the Conservative Party conference. But it may not be sufficient to guard against further increases. The official view is that the eight base rate increases since early June need time to work through. And, with the mortgage rate increases triggered off by yesterday's move not due to come through until October 1,

the time required can be measured in months rather than weeks.

The problem is that we are in a period when, just as interest rates were used to calm market confidence in the wake of last October's crash, in the present context much of their effect is to reassure the financial markets that enough is being done.

The Chancellor, who, in his Institute of Economic Affairs lecture last month, was highly critical of the foreign exchange markets, yesterday praised them for their calm reaction to the trade figures. It is the performance of sterling in the coming weeks which will determine whether overkill, and perhaps 15 per cent base rates, will be needed to maintain the appropriate degree of reassurance.

In this context, the Bundesbank's half-point lifting of the discount rate to 3.5 per cent — in a period of mark firmness — and Bundesbank president Poehl's comments that the dollar had risen above its Louvre bands, were more helpful than any action taken by the British authorities. Nobody would mind too much if the pound's fall was mainly against the mark in a period of dollar weakness.

One thing will never be the same again after yesterday and that is the attitude of the markets towards the trade figures. A few months ago, a £1 billion current account deficit would have been regarded as disastrous. If we can get back down to that level after July's £2.15 billion shocker, it will now be regarded as good news.

Profits up by 78% at Emess

Emess, the fast-growing lighting company, boosted pre-tax profits by 78 per cent to £4.5 million in the six months to end-June. An interim dividend of 3.4p (2.8p) was declared. Sales grew from £301.8 million to £399.3 million. Organic growth, stripping out acquisitions, was 28 per cent.

The failed £74 million bid in June for Holophone, the French company, cost £500,000, which was charged as an extraordinary item. Mr Michael Meyer, the chairman, said: "Activity remains at record levels."

Tempsa, page 20

Lec advance

Pre-tax profits at Lec Refrigeration, the refrigerator maker, rose from £1.11 million to £1.98 million in the first half of 1988 following an impressive improvement in margins. Earnings per share almost doubled from 11.86p to 21.05p but the interim dividend is pegged at 4p.

PLM setback

PLM, the Swedish packaging group, reports a fall in profits, after financial items, of 4 million kronor to 108.3 million kronor (£9.94 million) for the first half of this year.

Payout boost

The recovery continues at MacDonald Martin Distillers and pre-tax profits have more than doubled from £347,000 to £805,000 in the first six months of 1988. Earnings per "A" share are 23.86p, against 10.74p and per "B" share, 11.93p, against 5.37p. The interim dividends rise by 50 per cent to 6p and 3p respectively.

Ship interest

Trafalgar House said the Institute of Production Control has indicated "some interest" in having a £265 million cruise ship built at Trafalgar's mothballed Scott Lithgow yard on the Clyde. No further comment was available from either side.

S&N 'had talks' with Elders

By Michael Tate

Sir David Nickson, chairman of Scottish & Newcastle Breweries, confirmed yesterday that discussions had taken place with Elders Ltd, the Forsters group, but that they had been terminated at the end of July.

Shareholders at the annual meeting in Edinburgh heard that the talks had taken place at Elders' request. "We felt it was our clear responsibility to listen," said Sir David.

"We concluded that Elders had relatively little to contribute to the future development, and progress of your company. Above all, the board had no difficulty in deciding that the outline concept put forward was not in the interests of shareholders."

Shortly after the talks ended Elders advised S&N of a further purchase of 1.5 million shares "since when there have been no further notifications," he added.

Shareholders also heard that in the first three months of the year the group had seen good volume increases in beer sales and that Thistle Hotels continue to trade strongly.



Not interested: Sir David Nickson, who rejected the approach

Boeing soars to sales peak

By Harvey Elliott

Boeing, the United States aircraft maker, has sold a record 466 aircraft this year, worth more than \$20 billion (£12 billion) as the result of the worldwide boom in air travel.

With four months of the current year still to go, Boeing has beaten its previous record of 461 jets ordered in 1978, and expects to make even more sales within the next few weeks.

The backlog of aircraft ordered but not yet delivered from the Boeing plant in Seattle, Washington, now stands at 1,036, also a record.

The increase in demand has been fuelled by worldwide economic prosperity, a decline

in airline costs and airfares, and airlines' need to replace their older and noisier jets with the new generation of quiet, super-efficient aircraft.

Boeing market researchers predict that air travel will grow by 5 per cent a year on average between now and the year 2005, leading to a doubling of the number of people flying.

Tern pays £2.75m for estate agent

By Martin Waller

Consolidated Tern Investments, the property developer and builder based in South Wales, has announced its fourth acquisition this year of an estate agency with the £2.75 million purchase of Nationwide Estate Agents, which

operates from 19 branches in the Bristol and Swindon areas.

The vendor is Mr Michael Allen, who last year injected £4 million into Tern and who retains a 31 per cent stake. He will not be voting on the acquisition at the meeting called to sanction it.

The acquisition is for shares, and another £1 million is due based on profits for the year to end-September 1989. Of the 5 million new shares, 3.7 million will be placed with institutions, Tern is raising £300,000 by issuing more shares in the placing.

The team at both ends ...

John Hewitt, chief executive of Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, seems to have been too good a matchmaker when it came to introducing his own oil team to the team he planned to poach from rival firm Hoare Govett. They did indeed make a good match but, in an unusual turn of events, Hoare managed to persuade the Scrimgeour oil team to move across to them. As a result, three of the Scrimgeour team — Brendan Wilder, Sue Scott and Liz Christie — will now be joining Hoare over the next three months. But the Scrimgeour team leader, Arthur Hephner, who has some 20 years' experience in the sector, has, I hear, decided to stay put. Hoare is clearly delighted with his catch. "Eight or nine years ago we were ranked number one in the oil sector but then we moved off the ratings," says Mark Cusack, head of research at Hoare. "We are now naturally looking to regain that number one slot." The Hoare team, which until now comprised John Toalster, Irene Himona and Chris Osborne-Moss, is ranked third in the sector. But Hewitt does not seem too perturbed by the departure. "Our oil team was only ranked ninth, which isn't a commanding height, and we were looking to strengthen it, which is why we were talking to Toalster," he tells me. "We continue to view it as an important sector, and giving a blank piece of paper gives us considerably more scope."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Counting the Costa

He who laughs last ... a market-maker who has asked to remain nameless, and employed in London by a big American bank, was recently on a family holiday in Spain. But his rest and relaxation was disturbed when he received a cable from his office, ordering him to return at once. He caught the next plane back, and walked into the office only

to be told that he had been made redundant. He was instructed to clear his desk, hand over the keys to his company car and leave the building — all within 20 minutes. He did as he was told and, just as he was walking out, he was asked the whereabouts of the car. "Alicante," he replied.

Bick back

Colourful City public relations man David Bick, co-founder of Lombard Communications, has just returned to the Square Mile after 10 days spent flat on his back at home, and is now having to take life at a slightly slower pace than usual. His back, which seized in the middle of a

client meeting and necessitated calling out an ambulance, was, I hear, injured while Bick was playing that normally sedate game, cricket. For, so excited did Bick become after John Coyle, his arch-rival from another City PR firm, Broad Street, was run out, that he injured his spine. But it was perhaps worth it. His local village team in Elmston, Cambridgeshire, which had laid down the challenge to the White City All Stars — for which Coyle was playing — won the match.

Home base

The choice of venue for BAT Industries' half-time press conference in September could be coincidental. Or it could be proof that, despite its protracted battle to gain control of the US insurance group Farmers, it did not destroy the company's sense of humour. The location is Farmers and Fletchers Hall, in Cloth Street, in the Square Mile.

Carol Leonard



With effect from the close of business on Thursday, 25 August 1988 and until further notice, TSB Base Rate is increased from 11.00% to 12.00% p.a.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to TSB Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

TSB Group plc, 25 Milk Street, London EC2V 8LU.

BANK OF SCOTLAND BASE RATE

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from Thursday 25th August 1988 its Base Rate has been increased from 11.00% per annum to 12.00% per annum.

BANK OF SCOTLAND A FRIEND FOR LIFE



Coutts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is increased from 11.00% to 12.00% per annum with effect from the 25th August 1988 until further notice.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate linked to Coutts Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

Coutts & Co. 440 Strand, London, WC2R 0QS



National Westminster Bank PLC

NatWest announces that with effect from and including Thursday 25th August 1988 its Base Rate is increased from 11.00% to 12.00% per annum.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to NatWest Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

41 Lathbury London EC2P 2BP

UNLISTED SECURITIES FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1976 was same at 75.9 (day's range 75.8-75.9).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES **OTHER STERLING RATES**
 Market rates for August 22 Argentina austral 24.30-24.44

NEW YORK	1.6845-1.6880	1.6855-1.6865	0.43-0.40pr	1.28-1.23pr	Shearwater	0.8075-0.8175
Monter	2.0763-2.0962	2.0914-2.0952	0.35-0.15pr	0.80-0.57pr	Cyprus pound	7.4875-7.5275
Amstrdm	3.3578-3.3773	3.5689-3.5745	1 1/4-1pr	5 1/2-5pr	Finland marka	250-0.95C

Frankfurt	3.1589-3.1687	3.1638-3.1682	1% - 1 1/2%	5% - 4 1/2%	KUWAIT DIBIR KU	0.4750-0.4850
Lisbon	259.67-261.23	259.67-260.67	20-70dm	44-141dm	Malaysia ringgit	4.5028-4.5081
Mexico	208.18-209.18	208.72-209.18	25.2-2%	35.4-2%	Mexico peso	3750-3850

Pakistan	10.67-10.93	10.74-10.83	8% - 8%	S Africa rand (fin)	5.7879-5.9520
Stockholm	10.8577-10.9377	10.8210-10.9356	1% - 4%	S Africa rand (com)	4.0916-5.0025
Tokyo	224.80-226.99	226.35-226.65	1% - 1 1/4%	UAE dirham	6.1825-6.2225
Vancouver	92.18-92.94	93.12-93.64	1 1/4% - 1 1/2%		

[illegible]

Australia	2.232-2.217	Netherlands	2.1065-2.1075	Portugal	152.20-152.70
Canada	1.2330-1.2340	France	6.3270-6.3300	Spain	122.95-123.05
Sweden	6.4350-6.4400	Japan	133.50-133.60	Austria	13.12-13.16

MONEY MARKETS

Buying: 2 mth - 11% 3 mth - 11%	Call: 6-7			
Selling: 2 mth - 11% 3 mth - 11%	Debt/equity ratio:	5-6% 6 1/2-6 3/4% 6 3/4-7% 7 1/2-8%		
Cost of capital: 12%	Call: 4 1/2-5%			

Interbank (%) Overnight: open 10% close 10%
1 week: 12-11% 1 mth: 11^{1/2}-11% 3 mth: 11^{1/2}-11%

BULLION:
Open: \$434.50-435.00 Close: \$433.25-433.75

3 mth: 8.55-8.50 6 mth: 8.50-8.35 12 mth: 9.10-9.05

1966 - 1967: 11.5% per cent. Schemes II & III: 11.5%
per cent. Reference rate July 1, 1968 to July 29, 1968 -
Scheme IV & V: 10.511 per cent.

Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
Three Month Sterling				
Previous open interest 43475				

Open	High	Low	Close	Vol
US Treasury Bond				
Previous open interest 7000				

[illegible]

Jan 88	90.62	90.62	90.52	90.54	187	Japanese Govt Bond	Previous open interest	745
Feb 88 <td>90.45 <td>90.45 <td>90.42 <td>90.42 <td>80 <td>Sep 88</td> <td>102.40</td> <td>102.45</td> </td></td></td></td></td>	90.45 <td>90.45 <td>90.42 <td>90.42 <td>80 <td>Sep 88</td> <td>102.40</td> <td>102.45</td> </td></td></td></td>	90.45 <td>90.42 <td>90.42 <td>80 <td>Sep 88</td> <td>102.40</td> <td>102.45</td> </td></td></td>	90.42 <td>90.42 <td>80 <td>Sep 88</td> <td>102.40</td> <td>102.45</td> </td></td>	90.42 <td>80 <td>Sep 88</td> <td>102.40</td> <td>102.45</td> </td>	80 <td>Sep 88</td> <td>102.40</td> <td>102.45</td>	Sep 88	102.40	102.45
Mar 88 <td>90.35 <td>90.35 <td>90.33 <td>90.32 <td>10 <td>Dec 88</td> <td>100.90</td> <td>100.90</td> </td></td></td></td></td>	90.35 <td>90.35 <td>90.33 <td>90.32 <td>10 <td>Dec 88</td> <td>100.90</td> <td>100.90</td> </td></td></td></td>	90.35 <td>90.33 <td>90.32 <td>10 <td>Dec 88</td> <td>100.90</td> <td>100.90</td> </td></td></td>	90.33 <td>90.32 <td>10 <td>Dec 88</td> <td>100.90</td> <td>100.90</td> </td></td>	90.32 <td>10 <td>Dec 88</td> <td>100.90</td> <td>100.90</td> </td>	10 <td>Dec 88</td> <td>100.90</td> <td>100.90</td>	Dec 88	100.90	100.90

other than **LONDON FOX** **LONDON METAL EXCHANGE**

COFFEE	Q W Joyneon	Copper Stand	1330.0-1335.0	1330.0-1335.0	50	Farmer
		Lead	363.00-364.50	363.00-364.50	37375	Quist
		Zinc	805.00-807.00	805.00-807.00		Brly/Stdy

72-09.50	WHR 1020-1029	VOL 0121	Aluminum H ⁺	2825.0-2845.0	2830.0-2835.0	2835.0-2840.0	Easier
73-04.50		C Creamlow	Nickel ⁺	13700-13750	13750-13800	13800-13850	Quiet
75-33.75	SUGAR	Vol: 1296	+ 1 Cents per Ton				Easier
76-31.75	FOB						

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES
WHEAT close (2/7) Vol 171
On 10R 15. 30 112 75 112 75
Live Pig Contract
Mth Open Close
Ar's last stock prices at representative
markets on August 25

Close	SP 101.00	NV 104.35	JA 107.40	Feb.	96.80	95.90	Eng/Wal (%)	+8.4	+83.0	-0.9
65.50	Mr 110.00	Ny 111.90		Live Cattle Contract			Eng/Wal (p)	69.85	108.12	114.74
74.50							Eng/Wal (+/-)	1.00	-0.75	

Vol 67	Feb 1980-1981	May 1982-1983	Vol 152	Vol Pp-0 Cattle-0	* Estimated dead carcass weight	-1.89	+1.71
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The Times continues its assessment of the central issues on the eve of a new football season

The strange death of skilful England

As the Football League celebrated its centenary, the limited support of Charlton Athletic, Luton Town, Oxford United and Wimbledon (whose average home gates were lower than 9,000) and the dominance of Liverpool all contributed to the decline. Yet they do not adequately explain why the crowds should have fallen last season, by comparison with the previous season, by over one million.

The reduction of the number of first division clubs, the limited support of Charlton Athletic, Luton Town, Oxford United and Wimbledon (whose average home gates were lower than 9,000) and the dominance of Liverpool all contributed to the decline. Yet they do not adequately explain why the crowds should have fallen last season, by comparison with the previous season, by over one million.

It represents one of the largest drops since the war, even though England stirred the nation's interest less than half-way through the season by qualifying in November for the finals of the European

In the second of three articles Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, examines a decline in both individualism and attendances

Championship. The product of the leading teams was clearly seen by the customers to be unattractive.

Not Liverpool. Outstanding for their quality, their simplicity and the variation of their ideas, they filled arenas wherever they went. Inspired by the arrival of Barnes and Beardsley, they developed almost instantly into the most exciting of Anfield's sides. A few of their performances touched perfection itself.

Underneath the champions, Arsenal and Nottingham Forest occasionally lifted a standard that otherwise hovered around and

below the mediocre. Bob Paisley was not alone in regarding the first division as one of the weakest fields in history. Worse still, there were even fewer individuals capable of illuminating the extensive darkness.

Two decades ago the mere presence of three men in one forward line drew huge audiences. Now there are scarcely three characters in the whole of the League who are fit to be compared with the likes of Best, Law and Charlton. But even the talent of that trio might have been extinguished in the present atmosphere.

How, for instance, would they have coped with the long-ball game, the version that breeds aggressive and athletic giants who own either four heads of iron or kicks of mules. The relegation of Watford, one exponent of the awkward and unsophisticated style, has been offset by the promotion of another, Millwall.

They are about to enter a

programme that remains as heavy as any in Europe and far more competitive. With the prevalence of the off-side trap and the increase of the long-ball game (tactics, incidentally, which are rare on the Continent), talent has little room in which to grow.

If individuals do blossom, they will do so not because of the domestic system but in spite of it. The members of Liverpool's squad and the comparative youngsters at Arsenal are fortunate to be playing within a settled and cultured structure. They and their clubs should benefit over the next nine months.

Rocastle, according to a reported comment by Ruud Gullit, is the one Englishman worth watching. He is already on the verge of full international recognition. Two of his colleagues at Highbury, Davis and Thomas, are not far away. Dixon and especially Winterburn may also soon be genuinely in contention.

Gascoigne, of Tottenham Hotspur, is another enterprising young player. Like Cottee at Everton, however, he is wandering around an unfamiliar line-up with an absurdly inflated price tag around his neck. Until his fellow newcomer, Stewart, serves his four-match suspension, Gascoigne may initially find the environment and the weight a hindrance.

New faces inevitably provoke local interest at the dawn of a fresh season. The prospect of seeing Nevin, McCall and McDonald as well as Cottee will fill a few more seats at Goodison Park. Newcastle United's supporters will be as keen to assess the qualities of Beasant and Thorn.

But how many of them will attract "floating" spectators, a body that is as deceptively bulky as the hidden portion of an iceberg. A recent report commissioned by the League has revealed that almost six million people pass through at least one turnstile during a season. The

total attendance each Saturday is about 400,000.

The return from foreign lands of their two old boys, Hughes and Rush, is sure to maintain the position of Manchester United and Liverpool respectively as the teams with the biggest following in the country. Yet, in spite of their success in the championship, the average gates of the winners and runners-up dropped to below 40,000 on average.

Since the first division now embraces only 20 clubs, next year's overall figure threatens to go under eight million. New depths are even more likely to be plumbed this season if individualism continues to be lost amid inflexible and uniform tactics and especially if England look like failing to reach the finals of the 1990 World Cup.

TOMORROW

Predictions for the season's honours

Surprising finds in Charlton's cupboard

By Louise Taylor

The trophy cabinet in Lennie Lawrence's office at Charlton's Eltham training ground is surprisingly well stocked, but the silverware is for club quiz and darts teams rather than conquests on the football field. "Well, you've got to put something in it," said the manager of one of the first division's least glamorous clubs.

His achievement in preserving Charlton's membership of the elite for the past two seasons probably represents the equivalent of collecting a couple of cups at a more exalted club.

The problem of running Charlton on a shoestring budget is exacerbated, since after eviction from their home at the Valley, they were forced into uneasy cohabitation with Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park.

Liverpool are tomorrow's visitors but if Lawrence wished for a gentler introduction to the rigours of the season he did not show it. "Of course I am pleased to be playing Liverpool. Immediately we'll be under the closest scrutiny and they'll punish any weaknesses."

The Merseysiders have invested around £3 million this summer. Charlton have spent nothing, but as Lawrence points out "they're trying to win the League. I'm realistically trying to get into the top half of it."

Six months ago the chances of Charlton facing Liverpool in the League were extremely slim. They gained only one point in nine early games. As Lawrence puts it: "We were in a hole. It was a small miracle that we climbed out. When Chelsea had 21 points we had only four — you wouldn't have expected them to win only once in their last 27."

Charlton suffered only one defeat in their final dozen games but Lawrence insisted: "That was misleading. A lot of our opponents had nothing to play for. It will be a lot harder to get one in 12 at the start of this season."

Dunlop colt to return at Windsor

By Michael Seely

Love The Groom is to make his comeback in the £5,000 Windsor Hill Stakes at Windsor tomorrow, the last evening meeting of the 1988 season.

Last year Love The Groom was a smart performer, winning the King Edward VII Stakes at Ascot and then beating Colchis by four lengths in the Gordon Stakes. Goodwood before disappointing in the Matchmaker International and the St Leger.

"Love The Groom hasn't been out this season because he pulled a muscle in his off-hind in May," said John Dunlop yesterday. "Pat Eddery will ride the colt at Windsor and he's entered in several good races."

Windsor's extended 10-furlong test has attracted an above-average quality of runner to the Thameside track, and the field will also include Ruby, to be ridden by Walter Swinburn for Michael Stoute.

Ruby, slightly disappointing in the top two-year-old races in 1987, made a successful return at Brighton at the beginning of the month and looked very sharp indeed when springing clear of his galloping companions on the Limeskins at Newmarket on Tuesday morning.

Dunlop, always an aggressive overseas rider, is also looking forward to running Almaraz in



John Dunlop: casting his net wide this weekend

the Grand Prix de Deauville on Sunday. Willie Carson will take the mount on the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes fourth.

This afternoon Gary Moore rides Patriarch for the stable in the Ostingien-Remen at Baden-Baden, where Trevor Rogers and Luzzini will also represent this country.

Other news from Arundel is that Declan Gillespie will partner Asl in the Mild Stakes at the Curragh tomorrow as Dunlop attempts to win the 1½-mile race for the fourth successive year.

An announcement is expected today that Lingfield Park has been sold to Leisure Investments for £7 million. It is thought that Ron Muddle, the 73-year-old owner, has agreed to a reasonable price of £20,000 an acre for his 310-acre site in return for an assurance that racing will continue at Lingfield.

Leisure Investments, who recently failed in a bid for the GRA greyhound tracks, is a publicly quoted company which owns casinos in Gibraltar and Istanbul. It also runs the Ritz snooker clubs as well as restaurants. Muddle bought Lingfield from Lord Brookes in 1982 for £300,000.

With the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe only just over a month away, it was good to hear from Luca Cumani that Kahyasi, the dual Derby winner, is back in strong work and on target for his assault on the world's most demanding Flat race.

"At the moment the plan is to go for the Select Stakes," said Cumani. The Goodwood race has also been announced as the preliminary chosen for Mote, the King George winner. Finally, Maureen Piggott will have her first runner since being granted a temporary training licence when Suhail Dancer runs in the Blue Peter Stakes at Newmarket this afternoon.

Monfarid reaches landmark

Monfarid, ridden by Ray Cochrane, gave Luca Cumani his fifth success of the season in the W and A Gibbes Maiden Stakes at Brighton yesterday, beating the even-money favourite, Alderney, by 2½ lengths.

A stewards' inquiry found Monfarid had interfered with Alderney at the two-furlong marker, but it was deemed accidental.

David Wilson sent out his first winner from his new Epsom yard when 20-1 Torrence took the Phoenix Brewery Handicap.

On a day of five losing favourites, Annie Bee broke the sequence by landing the seller. The winner was trained by William Haggas, the fiancé of Maureen Piggott.

At Beverley, Bill Watts and stable jockey Nicky Connors completed a 20-1 double with Upton Park and Heavenly Note. Heavenly Note scored on his debut in the Win With Tot Maiden Stakes, while Upton Park earned a place in the Sam Hall Stakes at Ayr after beating Pomaton by 1½ lengths in the Walsingham Maiden Stakes.

Cook's ban is extended

The four-day suspension imposed on Paul Cook for "careless riding" on Vicerey Melody at Yarmouth last month, was extended to seven days, at a Jockey Club disciplinary committee hearing in London yesterday.

Cook lodged an appeal against the suspension, but the committee dismissed the appeal and increased the ban, which now runs from August 27 to September 2 inclusive.

By Clive White

Millwall Football Club embarks on an adventure tomorrow. The first day of its first season in the first division of the League is the start of a journey that could lead to success and wealth. Millwall has only dreamed of — or a return to semi-obscurity. The social implications are even more uncertain, for Millwall's history is scarred with violence, indeed, the last thing football needed to help its public relations was the promotion of Millwall.

But the authorities may have to get used to the idea that Millwall is in the first division because the club is convinced that that is where it belongs — and that it is making a determined effort not only to tame the hooligans but also to become involved with the community as no other football club has done. Millwall — the



hard men with the hard words. The Lions who play at The Den in the tough old docklands — want to be admired.

"We're regarded as a small club but we're not," Reg Burr, the club's chairman, says. "We're really a big club that has fallen into almost terminal decline." Two years ago it would have seemed to be any club at all had it not been for the recuperative powers of Burr's board and John Docherty, the manager. Their painstaking efforts in reviving the club will all be made worthwhile tomorrow when the team appears at Villa Park.

Millwall knows that this is a season of great opportunity but fraught with danger. Burr, a demure, gentle man, and hardly the brass rod of character one imagines would be chairman of Millwall, has a right to be apprehensive. "It's going to be very exciting and very tense," he says. Millwall's every move will



Lady Mayor's show: John Docherty and Beggy Fitzsimmons, mayor of Lewisham, in front of the club's family enclosure (Photograph: Adrian Brooks)

be scrutinized — and no doubt magnified. They will not be able to lift a rattle without the world knowing about it.

All that Burr asks is that the club be judged fairly. Last season, Millwall acquired the services of John Stalker, the former assistant chief constable for Greater Manchester, as an advisor, and has tried hard to change the public's perception of Millwall.

He hopes that promotion to the first division will change all that and give the Millwall supporters pride in their club. "I can't discipline 100 supporters,

but 14,900 can," Burr partly blames Millwall's lack of success on the field for its notoriety off it. "Millwall supporters have been frustrated beyond all measure by seeing clubs they regard as inferior to themselves passing them by. Our aim is to prove we're the premier club in south London, and, over the next three years, at least an equal force with Spurs and Arsenal."

Membership of the first division has never been more synonymous than now and Millwall would enjoy a lion's share of increased television and sponsorship revenue. They ex-

pect to gross at least £750,000 more than last season. There is money available for mere players but, so far, Docherty has restricted himself to an outlay of £220,000 to take Roddick, the England under-21 captain, from Tottenham reserves back to Millwall reserves, and yesterday paid a £150,000 fee to Queen's Park Rangers for Daves, an emergency measure to cover for the injured Coleman. Docherty, a prudent Scot, has always believed in planning for tomorrow. Fortunately, his chairman is of like mind.

"If I had to lose, I'd rather

lose with young players who are going to get better, than old players who probably never were any good," Burr says. Only two players in the squad have first division experience, though. Docherty, Sheringham, and McLary each received international recognition towards the end of last season. The Casanova-Sheringham partnership, which reaped a half century of goals last season, suggests that it could enjoy continued success in the first division. Burr fears, though, that their players may be too honest and fall victims to "the tricks of

experienced first division players."

Similarly, he is concerned that the club supporters do not fall into traps when travelling which Burr believes that home fans may get for them. "They won't be walked upon," he says, more as an excuse than a boast. He is not worried about hooliganism at The Den. "It may not be the prettiest ground but it's one of the safest." Besides, he has been assured that there will be no trouble.

The Times will be following the Millwall experiment, on and off the field, through the season.

THE INS AND OUTS OF A RECORD £34 MILLION SUMMER OF TRANSFERS IN THE FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS

Bargains rare in sales spree

All previous close season transfer records have been shattered in a summer of spending that totals £33,822,000 in deals.

This is £10.75 million more than the record set last summer, which is hardly surprising because in the equivalent period, the British transfer record has been broken three times.

First, Tottenham paid Newcastle United £2 million for Paul Gascoigne, then Everton splashed out £2.2 million on the West Ham forward, Tony Cottee, but their Merseyside neighbours, Liverpool, lifted the record to £2.8 million last week with the return to Anfield of Ian Rush from Juventus.

Rush is one of three internationals who have rejoined their former English clubs from abroad this summer (the others are Mark Hughes, back to Manchester United from Barcelona, and Gordon Cowans, returning to Aston Villa from Bari in Italy).

The record fee paid for a goalkeeper has also been broken twice this summer. Manchester United signed Jim Leighton from Aberdeen for £750,000, and less than a month later, Dave Beasant, Wimbledon's FA Cup-winning captain, moved to Newcastle for £850,000.

That deal puts Newcastle among the close season's five top-spending clubs. They have spent just a little more than the £2 million received for Gascoigne by signing Beasant, Andy Thorn and John Hendrie. This excludes the £700,000 Newcastle paid in April to bring another new player to their side this season, John Robertson from Hearts.

Only one first division club, Charlton, did not sign any new players during the summer, perhaps an indication of the club's meagre financial resources.

First Division		OUT		IN	
Player	From	Fee (£)	Date	Player	To
ARSENAL					
S. Boud	Black	300,000	June	G. Fiu	Coventry
ASTON VILLA					
D. Mounfield	Everton	425,000	May 28	N. Piskering	Derry City
G. Priest	Blackburn	150,000	May 26	M. McLary	Queens Park Rangers
G. Cowans	Bari (It)	250,000	June 21		
CHARLTON ATHLETIC					
COVENTRY CITY					
D. McGuire	Coventry	40,000	Aug 18		
DERBY COUNTY					
J. Chedoke	Tottenham	Free	July 26		
R. Fildes	Newcastle	425,000	July 25		
R. Fildes	Coventry	250,000	July 25		
T. Hebbard	Coventry	250,000	Aug 9		
EVERTON					
S. McCall	Blackburn	850,000	June 10		
P. Hogg	Blackburn	850,000	June 10		
M. McDonald	Blackburn	225,000	July 18		
S. Wilson	Blackburn	225,000	July 18		
LIVERPOOL					
N. Turner	Bristol R	20,000	June 30		
I. Rush	Juventus	2,800,000	Aug 18		
LUTON TOWN					
J. Dwyer	Oxford	140,000	June 21		
R. Whelan	Coventry	75,000	July 15		
A. Chamberlain	Everton	150,000	July 18		
S. Wilson	Arsenal	300,000	July 22		
MANCHESTER UNITED					
J. Leighton	Aberdeen	750,000	June 28		
M. Hughes	Barcelona	1,500,000	June 28		
MIDLESBROUGH					
M. Stevens	Ipswich	300,000	July 22		
MILLWALL					
N. Roddick	Tottenham	300,000	June 27		
D. Davies	QPR	150,000	Aug 25		
NEWCASTLE UNITED					
J. Robertson	Hearts	700,000	April 18		
D. Beasant	Wimbledon	850,000	June 10		
M. Hogg	Blackburn	500,000	June 15		
A. Thorn	Wimbledon	850,000	July 25		
NORWICH CITY					
N. Allen	Weymouth	175,000	Aug 10		
A. Townsend	Southampton	300,000	Aug 25		
NOTTINGHAM FOREST					
B. Lums	Nottingham	120,000	June 27		
S. Hodge	Nottingham	550,000	Aug 18		
QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS					
S. Barker	Blackburn	400,000	July 14		
D. Jordan	Tottenham	300,000	Aug 25		
L. Hogg	Luton	300,000	Aug 25		
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY					
A. Hogg	Coventry	275,000	June 8		
D. Hodgson	Coventry	275,000	July 27		
SOUTHAMPTON					
P. Rouse	Bari (It)	250,000	June 30		
L. Cornen	Luton	325,000	June 30		
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR					
P. Stewart	Sheff Wed	1,700,000	June 5		
P. Gascoigne	Newcastle	2,000,000	July 7		
WEST HAM UNITED					
A. McKnight	Celtic	250,000	July 13		
K. Kelly	Widals	600,000	July 22		
WIMBLEDON					
G. Boscain	Groningen (Neth)	Unknown	Aug 17		
R. Joseph	Dorchester	150,000	Aug 25		

		Fee (£)	Date
Don (F)	Don	Free	June 15
Don	Don	300,000	July 15
Don	Don	50,000	July 15
Don	Don	315,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	20,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	250,000	July 15
Don	Don	150,000	July 15
Don	Don	275,000	July 15
Don	Don	1,000,000	July 15
Don	Don	150,000	July 15
Don	Don	240,000	June 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15
Don	Don	150,000	June 15
Don	Don	120,000	June 15
Don	Don	80,000	June 15
Don	Don	2,000,000	July 15
Don	Don	425,000	July 15
Don	Don	150,000	June 15
Don	Don	600,000	June 15
Don	Don	100,000	June 15
Don	Don	35,000	June 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15
Don	Don	300,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	175,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	110,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	130,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	350,000	June 15
Don	Don	200,000	June 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15
Don	Don	50,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	300,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	300,000	June 15
Don	Don	170,000	June 15
Don	Don	110,000	June 15
Don	Don	500,000	June 15
Don	Don	80,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15
Don	Don	2,200,000	July 15
Don	Don	800,000	June 15
Don	Don	325,000	June 15
Don	Don	110,000	June 15
Don	Don	800,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	200,000	Aug 15
Don	Don	Free	Aug 15

Dunlop
colt to
return at
Windsor

By Michael Seely
Racing Correspondent

Love The Groom is to make his comeback in the £3,000 Windsor Stakes at Windsor on Saturday, the last evening meeting of the 1988 season.

Last year Love The Groom was a smart performer, winning the King Edward VII Stakes at Ascot and then beating the four-year-old in the Windsor Stakes at Windsor. The colt's disappointing in the Windsor Stakes at Windsor was a major disappointment for the owner, Lord Grosvenor.

Love The Groom, trained by John Dunlop, was a colt of the year in 1987, when he won the King Edward VII Stakes at Ascot and the Windsor Stakes at Windsor. He was also named champion colt of the year by the British Horseracing Board.

Love The Groom was a colt of the year in 1987, when he won the King Edward VII Stakes at Ascot and the Windsor Stakes at Windsor. He was also named champion colt of the year by the British Horseracing Board.

Priceless Pearl ready to fulfil potential in Goodwood feature

By Mandarin

Priceless Pearl, highly impressive when winning on his debut earlier this month, can successfully negotiate a hefty step up in class by landing the group three Waterford Candelabra Stakes at Goodwood this afternoon.

The Henry Cecil-trained filly, starting at 9-1, has never out of a canter to beat her three rivals at Yarmouth, and although this opposition is a very different proposition I feel she is well following.

It has to be said that her career rests primarily on an abundant racecourse potential, but Cecil has made no secret of his high regard for her and immediately after that Yarmouth win was thinking in terms of Pattern race objectives for her.

It is also interesting to note that she is a full-sister to the outstanding 1984 American two-year-old Saratoga Six.

Proven form is best represented by Life At The Top and Dido. The former produced a strong run through the final furlongs to wear down Miss Secreta over this distance in a listed race at Newmarket last time, and I feel she may be a greater threat than the unbeaten Dido.

Mashmoon can add to her Haydock victory earlier this month in the one-mile Schroder Investment Management Handicap. She produced a sustained challenge to beat Uncle Ernie and with her preferred fast going there is every likelihood of further improvement. She is my nap.

Geoff Lewis: trains Point Of Light (Newmarket, 3.45)

The Country Club Hotel Handicap is a tricky affair in which I give the vote to Preziosa. She has not helped herself on her last two starts by failing to settle early on, but she won cleverly at Lingfield in June and with Steve Caution on board today is worth one more chance.

Inspired Love can gain due reward for her consistency by taking the Owens Jubilee Claiming Stakes, while Timely has an outstanding opportunity to get off the mark in the Gordon Lennox Maiden Fillies Stakes.

At Newmarket, Obsolete moves back in distance to six furlongs for the listed Landsaver Olympic Hopeful Stakes.

It is an interesting move as the filly has pulled hard early on when racing over seven furlongs and beyond, and presumably the thinking is that the faster pace in a sprint will help her settle.

She is undoubtedly a talented filly, but I oppose her with the

GOODWOOD

By Mandarin

2.10 Loft Boy.
2.40 MASHMOON (nap).
3.40 Priceless Pearl.
4.10 Inspired Love.
4.40 Timely.
5.10 Asjad.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.10 —
2.40 Red Ballad.
3.10 Princess Pearl.
3.40 Belvedere.
4.10 INSPIRED LOVE (nap).
4.40 Native Flair.
5.10 Asjad.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.10 PRICELESS PEARL (nap).

Guide to our in-line racecard

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Significance of F - fitter, 2 - pulled, 3 - in unsteady rider, 4 - brought down, 5 - slipped up, 6 - redoubled, 7 - disqualified, 8 - horse's name, 9 - days since last race, 10 - 1000 yards, 11 - 1000 yards, 12 - 1000 yards, 13 - 1000 yards, 14 - 1000 yards, 15 - 1000 yards, 16 - 1000 yards, 17 - 1000 yards, 18 - 1000 yards, 19 - 1000 yards, 20 - 1000 yards, 21 - 1000 yards, 22 - 1000 yards, 23 - 1000 yards, 24 - 1000 yards, 25 - 1000 yards, 26 - 1000 yards, 27 - 1000 yards, 28 - 1000 yards, 29 - 1000 yards, 30 - 1000 yards, 31 - 1000 yards, 32 - 1000 yards, 33 - 1000 yards, 34 - 1000 yards, 35 - 1000 yards, 36 - 1000 yards, 37 - 1000 yards, 38 - 1000 yards, 39 - 1000 yards, 40 - 1000 yards, 41 - 1000 yards, 42 - 1000 yards, 43 - 1000 yards, 44 - 1000 yards, 45 - 1000 yards, 46 - 1000 yards, 47 - 1000 yards, 48 - 1000 yards, 49 - 1000 yards, 50 - 1000 yards, 51 - 1000 yards, 52 - 1000 yards, 53 - 1000 yards, 54 - 1000 yards, 55 - 1000 yards, 56 - 1000 yards, 57 - 1000 yards, 58 - 1000 yards, 59 - 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Coe concedes that the door seems closed

From Pat Butcher
Athletics Correspondent
West Berlin

Sebastian Coe arrived here yesterday for a confrontation with Tom McKean, but also implied that his career as a British international athlete is over.

Coe was at pains to deny any suggestion that he would refuse British selection as retribution for his rejection from the team for the Olympic Games, but it is hard to read his future intentions any other way.

He said: "I have to accept the fact that the door has been closed by the British Board on my international career. If it hadn't, space would have been found for me in the Olympic Games. If I am fit next year, I'll still run in meetings like Zurich and Brussels, but I don't think there'll be any international visits from now on."

He said he could not respond to hypotheses about accepting an Olympic place if anyone were to drop out now. But, with McKean struggling to find form, if Coe were to beat the Scot in the 800 metres this evening, the "Coe Must Go" lobby will start up again.

That would be as unfair to McKean as it is to several United States Olympians, who have, sub-

sequent to their trial, been beaten by athletes who they edged out of selection. McKean observed the selectors' criteria, and won his place justly. But that is jumping ahead.

If this is a proper grand prix final, there will not be a pacemaker, and McKean is at his best in slow run races. But either way, he and Tony Morrell and David Sharpe, two other British Olympic rejects, along with Moussa Fall, Vladimir Graudyn, Faouzi, Lahbi and Diendonné Kwizera will provide Coe with the best possible test of his form after illness.

Spare a thought for Kwizera. The first world-class athlete from Burundi, with a best of 1min 45.05sec for 800 metres, Kwizera is not going to the Olympic Games either.

Burundi does not have a national Olympic committee.

Coe has decided that his altitude training "may have been ill-conceived, but I don't think it was the reason for my poor run in the trials. I just wasn't right, but blood tests didn't show anything."

If Coe is satisfied with tonight's race, he will go on to run in Koblenz on Sunday — despite an embargo on British athletes, due to the concurrent meeting at Crystal Palace. That will raise the interesting possibility of a Coe versus Steve Ovett race there. Ovett, too, is ignoring the British Board.

If all still goes well for Coe after that, he will run in Rieti on Wednesday, then train for the Olympics "with a view to going to Tokyo in October, and running the best that I've ever run".

That would mean turning down Juan Antonio Samaranch's invitation to go to Seoul as the International Olympic Committee president's guest. One can sympathize with Coe when he says: "No disrespect, but I have got no desire to sit through two weeks of the Olympic Games."

Running his best ever at the post-Olympic meeting in Tokyo would seem a tall order for someone who has raced so poorly this year. But Coe evidently feels that he has a point to prove. If he can suffer the barbs this time, and emerge with a personal best, then he will deserve some of those hyperbolic epithets like "Saint" and "Martyr".

On a more prosaic level, the Mobil grand prix final is looking good value this year. The format could still bear alteration, but with

Said Aouita and Sergey Bubka topping the bill, it should be a good show.

The 5,000 metres is worthy of the Olympic final, and will give Eamonn Martin a taste of José Regalo's form. John Ngugi, the world cross-country champion, is also in the field.

The men's high jump should provide a view of the three Olympic medal winners, as should the steeplechase, but Aouita and Paula Ivan is favourite for the women's. Both are worth \$25,000.

In this divided city, the difference between east and west in this respect is that Aouita earns that sum virtually every week. It will make Ivan one of the richest women in Romania.



McKean: at his best in slow races

Sanderson and Whitbread meet

Tessa Sanderson, the Olympic champion, and Fatima Whitbread, the world champion, will meet in the javelin event in the McVitie's Challenge at Crystal Palace on Sunday. Sanderson has been out for a month with Achilles tendon trouble which threatened her place in Britain's team for Seoul, but she began her competitive comeback

last Saturday by putting the shot for her new club, Borough of Hounslow, in the GRE Jubilee Cup final at Harlingey.

Wendy Sly, already chosen to run over 3,000 metres in Seoul, yesterday said she wanted to run in the 10,000 metres as well. She opened up the possibility of dou-

bling up by going inside the qualifying time of 33 minutes in a race at Battersea Park on Wednesday evening, clocking 32min 48.4sec. Sly claims she is morally entitled to the third place because she was second in the trial and the selectors had indicated the first two over the line would automatically be chosen.

Double focus

Beijing (AP) — China's national television station will televise 184 hours of the Seoul Olympics, twice the time it devoted to the Los Angeles. China will see 65 competitions live, mostly where their athletes are expected to win medals.

Midfield player signs for Norwich

By Louise Taylor

Norwich City yesterday secured the signature of Andy Townsend, the sought-after Southampton midfielder player, for £300,000, although it was not clear whether he will be in the side to face Nottingham Forest tomorrow.

Martin Hodge is poised to join Leicester City following Sheffield Wednesday's acceptance of a £250,000 offer yesterday. Completion is dependent on the goalkeeper agreeing terms with David Pleat, but no complications are expected.

Two players who finalized transfers yesterday were Osvaldo Ardiles and Mark Stein, who both signed for Queen's Park Rangers, and are included in the squad for tomorrow's trip to Old Trafford. Ardiles, aged 36, who arrived from Tottenham on a free transfer, has initially signed a one-month contract but has agreed an option to extend it to one year. Stein cost QPR £300,000.

Rangers recouped some of the outlay with the sale of Ian Dawes to Millwall for £150,000. Another full-back to cross London for the same fee was Roger Joseph, a promising 22-year-old, who moved from Brentford to Wimbledon.

Jerry Williams has left Reading, joining Gillingham in a swap for Karl Elsey. Hereford United have signed Richard Jones on a free transfer from Newport.

● The FA has increased the suspension for serious foul play and violent conduct send-offs to three matches. Players sent off for using foul and abusive language will serve a two-match ban and those dismissed for two bookable offences will get a one-match ban.

Littlewoods interest continues

Negotiations are already taking place to continue Littlewoods' sponsorship of the Football League's cup competition. The deal is in its third and final year and worth £3 million so far (Dennis Signy writes).

John Taylor, of Littlewoods, said yesterday that talks had begun on a new contract. Trevor Phillips, the league's commercial director, said there were other companies interested in becoming involved but continuity was a factor in favour of Littlewoods continuing.

● Coventry City failed to secure a shirt sponsorship deal because of bootlegging during the European Championships in West Germany this summer, the club's chairman said today.

The 1987 FA Cup winners, who will join Sheffield Wednesday as the only first division side to start the new season without a sponsor, had almost completed a deal with a national firm but the company pulled out at the last moment.

"It was because of the violent scenes they witnessed on television from West Germany that the company pulled out," said Coventry chairman John Poynton.

● Everton yesterday signed a three-year extension to their sponsorship agreement with the Japanese electronics firm, NEC. The new deal is worth £300,000 a year.

● Scarborough have signed a "substantial" three-year deal with the frozen foods company, McCain. The club's Athletic Stadium will be re-named the McCain Stadium.

Russell's errors blemish good day for England

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

Lord's (England won the toss): England, with nine first-innings wickets standing, are 147 runs behind Sri Lanka

By lunchtime yesterday, the eerily echoing few thousand watching this Cornhill Test match were convinced they had been grossly misled. Sri Lanka had arrived with the reputation of a team whose batting was very much better than their bowling. At 69 for six, one hesitated to imagine how bad their bowling must be.

It had been a mortifying session for the touring team, five of the dismissed six falling to thoroughly unworthy strokes. The day could only improve for them and sure enough, it did, stands of 59 for the seventh wicket and 64 for the tenth achieving an air of vague respectability and a total of 194.

In a sense, however, the fact that the last four wickets could treble the score only underlined the shortcomings of the early batting. For England, it was a case of confusing extremes. Through a long and distressing season they have been humbled by first division opposition and yet now, they found themselves dominating rivals who belong in another

grade. The value of their performance was consequently impossible to assess.

It would be unfair to criticise too sharply. Sri Lanka have been starved of Test experience, politics and programming permitting them only one match in the past 16 months. No team, whatever their resources, can develop without exposure to competition. On this evidence, Sri Lanka have actually deteriorated since their last visit four years ago.

Recent results might have hinted at this. Their last three Tests on overseas soil have all been lost by an innings and they have not past 200 in six innings abroad. Theirs is a curious dilemma. They claim with justification that they need longer tours, and series of three Tests, to advance themselves but they are not likely to be granted this wish until their results merit it.

The public is plainly far from enchanted by the game, though whether they have been deterred by the record of a poor England side or the prospect of an even poorer Sri Lanka is debatable. Certainly Lord's lacked its usual Test match buzz, with vast areas of seating untenanted and only

the boxes and the pavilion remotely busy.

If the Sri Lankan batting was disappointing then so too, it must be said, was the first day of what I hope will be the long Test career of Jack Russell. It gives me no pleasure to report that he dropped two catches and even allowed one straightforward take to slip through his glove and legs. Nerves may have played a part but it was a pity that a 'keeper of such class should have chosen this of all days to lapse.

Russell's first miss will have grieved him sorely for when he put down Silva in the sixth over it deprived his friend David Lawrence of a first Test wicket. Silva had been made to hop in undignified fashion by Lawrence's furious new ball burst. He deserved his wicket but Silva then instantly fell at the other end, Russell pocketing a thin edge off the typically probing Foster.

Kuruppu scored 211 not out on his Test debut last year and he was a delight to watch. When he pushed away from his body to give Phil Newport a first Test wicket, he had scored 46 out of Sri Lanka's 52 for three.

Newport's inclusion had been a late decision. Gooch plainly felt that the pitch would be at its liveliest on the first morning and so it was decided to play five specialist bowlers, Curtis being omitted. Putting Sri Lanka into bat also seemed a master stroke when, by lunch, three more of their established batsmen had fallen cheaply. Newport taking three for seven in 19 balls.

Mendis, 36 yesterday, was missed by Russell on 13 but made only eight more before slogging against Lawrence. Smith judging the catch well at third man. Two more wickets fell in the space of eight runs but the upright Ratnayake was then joined by Labrooy, who proved himself far better than the average No 11, contributing some of the best strokes of the day to a record Sri Lankan last wicket stand.

England were left to bat for 22 overs and Robinson did not survive them. He had never looked in his best touch and when he mistimed a pull to midwicket, Russell was summoned as night watchman.



New boys together: Umpire John Holder, standing in his first Test, keeps a close watch on new England bowler Philip Newport, at Lord's yesterday (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Bailey released to rescue his county

By Andrew Longmore

The issue of club versus country took on new meaning for Robert Bailey as he sped between the two yesterday morning. Discarded by his county at 10.30 at Lord's, he was rescuing his county at Northampton two hours later.

A gentle request by Worcestershire earlier in the week for the release of Phil Newport if he was 12th man was gently turned down by the TCCB. The counties have asked the TCCB to consider reintroducing Sunday play for next year's sixth Test against the Australians so that their Test players would only miss one four-day game, but the conflict could hasten the introduction of 16 four-day games.

There was a happy ending for Bailey. In his last championship match before the England side is selected to tour India he made 51, which should have done more for his fading chances than sitting on the balcony at Lord's.

"We would have been very aggrieved if he had not been released as soon as the side had been selected. He was not expected to play and was not

part of the original squad, so it was fair that he should have been available," he said.

Bailey's flight from Lord's, which turned into a mercy mission as his county lost five wickets before lunch, was entirely fair on the player and the county, but it does highlight the growing problem of fixture congestion.

The incident happened midway through the morning session. Slack had just been taken off after bowling one over and after an over from his replacement, Hughes, during which Slack dropped a catch in the gully, he fell to the ground as the field was changing over. He was unconscious for several moments and, after being attended by the Yorkshire physiotherapist, he was about to be carried off the field when he came round and was able to walk off rather unsteadily.

Will Slack, the Middlesex batsman, collapsed during play in the match with Yorkshire at Headingley yesterday for the third time this season, as a result of a virus which doctors have been unable to diagnose (Simon Wilde writes).

"Flexox", but this was his wife's choice. Yes, he was deeply opposed to the Anglo-Irish agreement; yes, he did have a Union Jack rug and picture of the Queen in one of his rooms but this did not add up to what Dr Murray had termed "a shrine to Rangers and Protestantism".

That said, Dr Murray photographed Mr McMurdy's copy of *Glasgow's Giants* and we all repaired to Celtic Park where a party had been organised to celebrate the publication of *Celtic: A Century With Honour*, the club's official history written by Brian Wilson, MP.

Wilson's well-researched and candid book deals fairly with what amounts to the interdependence of Rangers and Celtic in financial terms. To put it bluntly, they might survive without each other but combined, the Old Firm equals football business on an immense scale.

It may well be that at Ibrox and Parkhead, the most impressive moments are yet to come, especially if a European league should compel them to mobilise their vast resources in the next decade.

Meanwhile, Dr Bill Murray has discovered an obstacle to his continued observation of Glasgow's giants. He does not have a ticket for tomorrow's match but at least he can try to beg one for either end without fear. He does, after all, know the words of both sets of songs off by heart.

The Old Firm is put to rites

By Roddy Forsyth

At this time last year I was asked by a visiting friend from Chicago if it would be possible for her to see the first Celtic-Rangers match of the season. Having duly bought two stand tickets for the game, I arranged for a Glaswegian acquaintance, a man aware of the peculiar nuances of Old Firm encounters, to chaperone our inquisitive American through the afternoon.

Later it transpired that the guide had become so bored in the proceedings that he neglected his duties as interpreter in favour of hawking the odds, but he did manage to purvey one telling piece of local lore.

Said my American friend: "He told me that the people at one end of the ground were singing about a rebellion in Ireland 60 years ago and that the people at the other end were singing about a battle in Ireland 300 years ago."

"Then he said: 'It has a lot to do with football, hasn't it?' Tomorrow, the anthems of divided Ireland will be heard once more in Glasgow as the Old Firm commence another series of collisions with the premier division fixture at Ibrox."

Outsiders have struggled to come to grips with the phenomenon of Rangers versus Celtic, since it began exactly a hundred years ago. To some it is simply an extension of the Glasgow appetite for combat fuelled by drink; others see it as an extension of the Ulster religious division with Celtic the focus of Scotland's Roman Catholic minority and Ibrox the bastion of staunch Protestantism.

Surreal quality to day of the match

The ingredients of this unholy stew are probably beyond analysis but it certainly includes a strong dash of the surreal.

The streets around Ibrox are often flavoured on match days by the presence of one of the city's best known characters, the relentlessly anti-Catholic orator, Pastor Jack Glass, who sells his entertaining pamphlet, the *Scottish Protestant View*, suitably printed in orange and blue.

Glass it was who once demonstrated in St Peter's Square in Rome with a placard which displayed the immortal words, "No Pope Here".

Even this was almost out-classed yesterday at the launch in Glasgow of a book by Dr Bill Murray, lecturer in history at La Trobe University in Australia, entitled *Glasgow's Giants: 100 Years of The Old Firm*.

Dr Murray, it emerged, was to share his Press conference with Mr Bill McMurdy, the agent for several well-known Scottish footballers including Maurice Johnston, formerly of Celtic. Mr McMurdy wished it to be known that Dr Murray's book conveyed a false impression of the McMurdy household.

"Flexox", but this was his wife's choice. Yes, he was deeply opposed to the Anglo-Irish agreement; yes, he did have a Union Jack rug and picture of the Queen in one of his rooms but this did not add up to what Dr Murray had termed "a shrine to Rangers and Protestantism".

Clubs are tacitly interdependent

That said, Dr Murray photographed Mr McMurdy's copy of *Glasgow's Giants* and we all repaired to Celtic Park where a party had been organised to celebrate the publication of *Celtic: A Century With Honour*, the club's official history written by Brian Wilson, MP.

Wilson's well-researched and candid book deals fairly with what amounts to the interdependence of Rangers and Celtic in financial terms. To put it bluntly, they might survive without each other but combined, the Old Firm equals football business on an immense scale.

It may well be that at Ibrox and Parkhead, the most impressive moments are yet to come, especially if a European league should compel them to mobilise their vast resources in the next decade.

Meanwhile, Dr Bill Murray has discovered an obstacle to his continued observation of Glasgow's giants. He does not have a ticket for tomorrow's match but at least he can try to beg one for either end without fear. He does, after all, know the words of both sets of songs off by heart.

Tyson seeks a rematch with Green

NEW YORK (Reuters) — Mike Tyson, the world heavyweight champion, who fractured his right hand in a scuffle with the former contender, Mitch Green, said yesterday that he would like to meet Green in the ring again.

"I can beat this guy any time, anywhere, any place. I will teach him a lesson in the ring that he should have learned already," Tyson, who won a 10-round decision against Green two years ago, said.

Tyson suffered a hairline fracture on the top of his right hand near the wrist during the scuffle. Green required five stitches to close a gash.

The injury put in doubt Tyson's defence against Frank Bruno on October 8 at Wembley. The right hand of the champion will be in a cast for about three weeks.

Bill Cayton, Tyson's manager, said: "If the healing is complete it will be just enough time to train for the bout."

McKenzie rewarded

Duke McKenzie, the undefeated European flyweight champion, will finally get the chance to box for the world title at Wembley on October 5. McKenzie's manager, Mickey Duff, yesterday announced that Rolando Bohol, the IBF champion from the Philippines, has been contracted to make his second defence against McKenzie.

Bohol has won 24 of his 28 bouts, with two draws. McKenzie, unbeaten in 20 starts, will take note that Bohol's defeats were away from home.

Harris wins

Auckland (Reuters) — Del Harris, the world junior squash rackets champion, of England, beat the world ranked No. 5, Rodney Martin, of Australia, in the second round of the New Zealand championship here yesterday in straight games.

SPORT IN BRIEF



Rafferty: invitation

Late defence

Wellington (AP) — Ronan Rafferty, of Ireland, has been invited to defend his New Zealand Open golf championship at the Paraparaumu Beach Course here from December 15 to 18, two weeks later than originally scheduled.

Chairman dies

George Grant, who was appointed chairman of Dundee United on Tuesday, collapsed and died yesterday. He was 67.

Budd to wed

Bloemfontein (Reuters) — Zola Budd, the South African-born athlete, who quit international athletics under pressure from anti-apartheid groups, has announced her engagement. Budd, aged 22, who took British citizenship in 1984 to escape the anti-apartheid sports boycott of South Africa and run at the Los Angeles Olympics, is to marry Mike Pieterse, aged 26.

Sprint record

Moscow (AP) — Erika Salunova, a student from Estonia, broke her own 200 metres world sprint cycling record in the Soviet Olympic trials here, her time of 11.21sec shaving 0.22sec off the record she set in 1987.

England dates

England will play Czechoslovakia in Prague on November 24 and the Netherlands in Manchester on November 30 in the European Basketball championship semi-finals.

Illness forces Mansell to give way to Brundle

Illness has forced Nigel Mansell to pull out of the Belgian Grand Prix this weekend, and his place in the Canon Williams team will be taken by Martin Brundle (John Blunsden writes).

A week ago Mansell thought he had recovered from a bout of chickenpox which had affected him so badly, but in the past few days he has contracted a virus which has affected his throat and his liver. His doctor has advised

him to take a complete rest if he wants to be fit in time for the Italian Grand Prix.

Frank Williams was only informed of Mansell's inability to travel on Wednesday evening, but Brundle, the Jaguar team leader, quickly obtained a release from Tom Walkinshaw to take Mansell's place.

"Nigel sounded very rough on the telephone," Williams said. "But at such short notice I count myself very lucky indeed that Martin was free

Dooley back at Preston

Wade Dooley, the England and British Lions lock forward, who has been sought by four leading Rugby Union clubs this summer, is leaving Fylde to return to Preston Grasshoppers (Peter Bills writes).

Dooley's decision has disappointed Sale, Orrell, Waterloo and Northampton, all of whom had approached the Blackpool policeman, who has

23 caps. Waterloo even went so far as to tell Dooley that he need not turn up for training.

"I listened carefully to what the interested clubs had to say," Dooley said. "But I could not face a round journey of about 2½ hours from my home just for training and the same or worse to play each match."

مكزامن التمثيل